NSDAR Educational Resources Committee

Pledge of Allegiance for the Sight-Impaired



Contributor: Savannah Elizabeth Joyce Grade Level: Visually Impaired Students and Grade 3

1. Identify the standards to be addressed:

ELA.AOR.7 - Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple meaning words and phrases.

ELA.1.AOR.7.1 - Determine the meaning of known and unknown words and phrases, choosing from an array of strategies: a. use sentence-level context clues (e.g., examples) to determine the meaning of a word or phrase; b. use provided reference materials to build and integrate background knowledge; c. use provided reference materials to determine the meaning of words and phrases; and d. use words and phrases acquired through conversations, being read to, and responding to texts.

2. Statement of the objective and lesson outcomes:

To explain the meaning of The Pledge of Allegiance.

To become familiar with the complicated words that are in the Pledge

3. Materials, resources, and technology to be used by teacher/students:

"What Does the Pledge of Allegiance Really Mean? (for teacher) Braille flags from DAR store

4. Introduction of the topic:

Day 1-This may take you 2 days to complete

- 1. Pass out braille flags to everyone
- 2. Have students run their fingers across the flag. Have them locate the stars and stripes.
- 3. Go over that the stars represent each state and that there are 50 of them. Then, go over that there are 13 stripes and that they represent the 13 original colonies in America.
- **4. Ask** students what they do every morning as they stand and put their hand over their heart. They should respond with "The Pledge of Allegiance".
- 5. Then, ask them, but does the pledge really mean?
- 6. Using the braille flag, have them locate the word pledge.
- 7. Go over the first line and explain that a pledge is to make a promise. Allegiance means loyalty or commitment to a group. So, when we "pledge allegiance" it means "I promise loyalty". Explain that the first line means "I promise Loyalty to the Flag".
- 8. Go through all the words in the pledge that are bolded on the sheet and explain to the students the meaning and paraphrase it for them.
- 9. Locate "Pledge Allegiance" on the flag: explain that when they make a pledge, they are making a promise,
- 10. Locate "To the Flag" on the flag: ask students who/what they are promising to be loyal to, and they should say the flag. They should glue the picture of

the flag to the 3rd page.

- 11. Locate "Of the United States of America" on the flag: Explain that the United States can also be called America or U.S. or USA. Show a map of the USA and point to the state in which they live. Explain that South Carolina is only one state of the 50 states that America is made up.
- 12. Locate "And to the Republic for which it Stands" on the flag: Explain that a Republic means the people get to vote to choose in their country. Adults get to vote in the U.S., and they are choosing leaders/people who will make decisions for everyone in the country.
- 13. Locate "One Nation, under God, indivisible" on the flag. Explain that the word "indivisible" means not able to be divided or unbreakable-like a chain. The States and the People are united together to help one another.
- 14. Locate "With Liberty" on the flag: help students understand the "liberty" means being able to make your own choices such as during class free time.
- 15. Locate "And Justice" on the flag: explain that liberty and justice go hand in hand. Justice means to be fair like having the same rules/laws for all.

Discuss some school rules and ask why we need these rules.

16. Locate "For all" on the flag: Explain that means everyone!

5. Lesson Closure

Have students read the pledge in Braille and stop and ask them what the big words mean to see if they remember and understand the meaning

6. Assessment of Understanding

Teacher observation and discussion

What Does the Pledge of Allegiance Really mean?

I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag

Of The United States of America.

And to the Republic, for Which it Stands;

Once Nation, Under God; Indivisible; With Liberty and Justice for All.

