
A Lesson on Making A Difference

by Mariah Jones

Grade Level: Grade 7

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length:

Lesson Keywords:

Lesson Description:

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

Lesson Content: Book/Story/Reading Passage

Instructions: Please read the following reading passage as many times as needed (aloud and silent) before starting to go through other lesson pages. Understanding the content of this passage is very important since the lesson activities will be all about this content. Feel free to print the passage if needed.

Making A Difference

by

Content: When I was in 7th grade last year, we had a special project. We were getting people to register to vote. I learned that it was so easy to register. I did not understand why more people did not register. It is a very important part of being an American. We learned in social studies that some countries do not allow people to vote. We learned that in US history at some times people have not been allowed to vote. Now everyone who is 18 can vote.

Our class decided to make a change in our community. So we made a plan to get people registered. We started with our own families. The school set up a voter registration day. It was part of the schools open house. So many people would be there. We made sure our parents were there and registered. We asked people why they had not registered before. Most people said they did not care much about it.

My brother was 18. He was going to high school. I asked him if he was registered. The answer was no. I told him how important it was and that he could come to the Open House. He said he would do better than that. I did not know what he meant.

My brother surprised me. He called the registrars office. He was calling to find out where he could register. But he learned more. He found out he could be a volunteer registrar. He would have to go to a training session. Then he would be able to help others get registered. So he went downtown. He registered as a voter. Then he took the training.

My brother talked with his high school social studies teacher. He said he wanted to help other students get registered. If you are 18, you can register to vote, but many 18-year-olds dont register. It could be that they dont know they can register.

The teacher set up a voter registration table in the lunchroom. My brother sat there every day for a week. When students came in, if they were 18, they could go to register at his table. At the end of the week, 108 students had registered. My brother had done all that himself.

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Task 1: Vocabulary

Instructions: Please complete the following vocabulary activity by choosing the correct meaning of each word selected from the passage and use of each word correctly in a sentence.

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Task 2: Forum Discussion

Instructions: This discussion forum will have questions for students to respond. Read the posted questions, and respond to each. Students are responsible for posting one initial and and two peer responses for each topic.

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write and post here 500 words essay on Make sure to provide specific examples.
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