Thank You Sarah; The Woman Who Saved Thanksgiving

Literature Lesson Plan

**BASIC LESSON INFORMATION**

Grade: 5th grade

Estimated Time: 35 Minutes

Connections to Standards and Lesson Objectives:
Common Core State Standards
- Quote accurately from the text
- Determine the meaning of words or phrases used in the text

Students will gain more knowledge about the Thanksgiving holiday and show that they have learned more on the worksheet.

Materials and Supplies:
Book: Thank You Sarah; The Woman Who Saved Thanksgiving
Author: Laurie Halse Anderson
Illustrator: Matt Faulkner
Publication: 2002
Genre: Informational: Nonfiction

Premade Comprehension Worksheet
Pencils

Key Vocabulary:
Dainty
Corsets
Bloomers
Bustles
“Curdled her gravy”
Bleak

Response Activity:
Students will do a comprehension worksheet after hearing the story proving that they understand what happened.

Connections to Prior Learning/Knowledge/Experience:
Student will take what they already know about thanksgiving and learn more. They will gain more knowledge about the holiday to hopefully share with others later on.
LESSON PROCEDURES/ACTIVITIES

1. I will start off by holding up the book *Thank You Sarah; The Woman Who Saved Thanksgiving* so that the students can see the cover.
2. I will then say explain to them that today we are going to read a story *Thank You Sarah; The Woman Who Saved Thanksgiving*.
3. Explain to students that they will be doing a worksheet after the read aloud and to pay close attention to important facts within the book.
4. Tell students that if they think it would help, they can even take notes during the read aloud.
5. Before I start reading I will ask the students a few questions.
   a. What are some things you know about thanksgiving?
   b. What does Thanksgiving mean to you?
6. Once questions have been answered, I will read the title, author, and illustrator.
7. After cover has been read I will start the read aloud. Stopping throughout to ask questions.
   a. Could you imagine writing letters like Sarah did? Remember they didn’t have T.V. then so writing was the only way to get the word out about anything. She wrote thousands of letters to fight for what she believed in. Do you guys think you would have had the drive to write so many letters to get the word out?
   b. Do you think something like Thanksgiving could bring a nation at war together? The U.S. was fighting North against South. Do you think it could bring both sides together?
8. Finish reading the story.
9. After I finish reading the story I will again ask the students a questions.
   a. What are some things that you all learned about Thanksgiving?
10. Pass out worksheet for students to complete.
11. Have students hand in worksheet when they are finished.
REFLECTION

Why did I choose this particular literary selection?
I chose this book because I did my lesson the day before Thanksgiving. When I read it I literally laughed out loud and I knew that my students would too. It is a great story and has facts that I think many people do not know about Thanksgiving. It is a fun read because it has party where the text is huge and you just have to yell it out.

How did the students respond to the lesson overall?
The students in my class loved this read aloud. I think that they liked this one even more than the last lesson that I did. They were having a blast with the emotions I portrayed while reading the story. They were laughing and I could tell that they were really paying close attention. They also liked the worksheet that I had them do after. It was fairly simple but helped me to make sure that they paid attention. It was fun to be able to read what all of my students are grateful for. That last question about what they are thankful for seemed to be the hardest one for them. I think some of the struggled because when you are put on the spot like that sometimes it is hard to think.