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Literary Arts Careers: Classroom Lesson Plan

Lesson Topic:

Exploring Literary Arts Careers

Lesson Objective:

Students will be able to describe potential careers in the literary arts.

Materials:

- Books, magazines, or internet access for research purposes
- Projector or other method to watch the movie

Advanced Preparation:

- Preview the video before sharing it with your students [1:28].
- Gather books, magazines, and/or devices with internet access.

Warm-up Activity:

1. Talk with students about what comes to mind when they hear the phrase "literary arts." Help children understand that a career in the literary arts involves creative writing of stories, poetry, plays, scripts, etc.

2. Help students understand that a career in the literary arts may not include ongoing secure employment. Instead, it may involve an artist moving from creative project to creative project or freelancing.

3. Explore the term *freelancing*. Have students discuss the pros and cons of working in a series of temporary situations or freelancing vs. securing more traditional employment.

4. Ask students to research careers in the literary arts using books, magazine, or the internet. Have students compile a list of literary arts-related jobs, complete with job descriptions and reasonable salary expectations (or freelance income) for each.

5. After completing their research, have students work together and/or with you to note in writing which literary arts jobs seem appealing and why.

View the Video: "Literary Arts Careers"

1. Tell students they will be watching the video titled, "Literary Arts Careers".

2. Explain that the video presents role models talking about why the literary arts is a career choice that girls should consider.

3. Tell students that, as they view the video, they should listen for reasons they should consider a career in the literary arts.

4. View the video together.

5. View the video again; this time, invite students to formulate questions or comments about the ideas discussed in the video and to be prepared to discuss these after viewing the video.

Video Follow-up:

1. Ask students to offer their questions, comments, reactions and responses to the video.

2. Invite students to record specific things they learned about literary arts careers featured in the video and to reflect upon their observations (e.g., "I didn't know that literary arts careers could be

so much fun and creative. It would be great to be paid well for doing such an interesting job.").

3. Have students add to their lists of literary arts careers as necessary to ensure that all the careers discussed in the film are included.

4. Have students discuss the types of literary arts careers they think they might enjoy learning more about. Ensure students are explaining their thinking.

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Extension Activities:

Use the "Related Questions to Explore" as discussion springboards or writing prompts to help students further explore literary arts careers.

Related Questions to Explore:

- What are some reasons that students don't consider a career in the literary arts? How can you discover if those concerns are true?

- Many of the literary artists said that working in creative ways helped them stretch and grow personally. What do you think they meant by that?

- How could you learn to prepare yourself for a career in the literary arts?

- Is it possible for a career in the literary arts to include interests you may have in other areas? Explain your answer.

- What are some ways the career women in the video may have prepared for their careers in the literary arts?

- Besides exploring the Career Girls website, what are some other ways you can learn more about career possibilities in the field of literary arts?

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Ideas for Future Lessons/Activities Related to Literary Arts:

1. Exploring Literary Arts Genres: Poetry, Screenplays, Novels, and More!

2. Conducting and Recording Interviews with Real Life Inspiring Women with Careers in the Literary Arts

3. Working Together: Creating a Class Book from Conception to Publication

4. Peeking Behind the Scenes in Publishing: Following a Book from Idea to Release

5. Literature-Based Learning: Analyzing the Characteristics of Good Writing

6. Literature-Based Learning 2: Analyzing and Comparing Poetry, Fiction, Non-fiction, and Plays

7. Technology in the Literary Arts: How Has Technology Changed the Trajectory of Literary Arts Careers