Grade level: K-12

Focus: Diversity – Each of us is unique and yet different in many ways. We need to learn how to respect and celebrate one another. Our world is a richer world because we are not all the same.

Goal: Students will express their uniqueness through an autobiographical bio-poem.

Materials: “We Are All One World” PSA, paper, pen, sample of bio-poem, format frame for bio-poem.

Discussion:

Set discussion rules for your classroom. Use the following questions that are appropriate for your students.

- How are people diverse?
- How are we diverse in our gifts and skills?
- What does the word “unique” mean? What are our unique qualities?

Explain to students that a bio-poem is a poem where you follow a formula with words to tell about yourself or someone else. Everyone in this world is unique and that is what makes the world so interesting. We all bring something special to the table.

Activity:

Grades K-2

| LACC.K.W.1.2 | Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose informative/explanatory texts in which they name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic. |
| LACC.1.W.1.2 | Write informative/explanatory texts in which they name a topic, supply some facts about the topic, and provide some sense of closure. |
| LACC.2.W.2.5 | With guidance and support from adults and peers, focus on a topic and strengthen writing as needed by revising and editing. |

On a sheet of plain paper, have each student generate positive words that describe them. The teacher or an aide can write the words if the students are unable to do so themselves. Allow students to illustrate the words they have chosen on the same paper. Ask students, “What do the positive things you have chosen look like?”

Grades 3-12
LACC.3.W.2.5
LACC.4.W.2.5
With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.

LACC.5.W.2.5
LACC.6.W.2.5
With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

LACC.7.W.2.5
LACC.8.W.2.5
With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.

LACC.910.W.2.5
LACC.1112.W.2.5
Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

Read a bio-poem sample.

Take students step by step through the writing of a bio-poem. Students will then write their own bio-poem. Circulate around to help students with the various parts of the formula. Encourage them to revise and edit through peer review. Feel free to change the formula a bit if you need to. For example, for “Who gives...” you could substitute “Who creates...” if that better fits that student. Then allow students to illustrate their poems or do a collage of magazine pictures that symbolizes them.

(First name)-

(Four adjectives that describe you)

Son or Daughter, sister or bother of (your parents or siblings names)

Lover of (three different things that you love)

Who feels (three different feelings and when or where they are felt)

Who gives (three different things you give)

Who fears (three different fears you have)

Who would like to see (three different things you would like to see)

Who lives (a brief description of where you live)

-(last name)
Example:

Sara
Bright, pretty, fun, healthy
Sister of Christian and Julie
Lover of swimming, dance, and horseback riding

Who feels scared when there is thunder, happy when the sun is shining, and lonely when Julie goes back to college

Who gives volunteer time at the park, advice to her friends, and practical jokes to her brother

Who fears an F on a test, forgetting the dance steps, and being thrown from a horse

Who would like to see mountains, snow and her cousin Christine

Who lives in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Smith