

AMERICA'S SPECIAL DAYS Women's History Month

Lesson 4

PURPOSE OF LESSON:

The student will recognize the fact that women can do many kinds of jobs. Opportunities for women have changed from being very restrictive to unlimited possibilities.

SYNOPSIS OF THE VIDEO:

America's Special Days salutes women during Women's History Month. The children see a collage of women in nontraditional roles. Florence Nightingale and Amelia Earhart are portrayed as successful professional women of their times. Francesca visits her mother, a radio announcer, and they discuss opportunities for women today. Francesca then challenges the audience to talk to women about what they do.

SUGGESTED VOCABULARY FOR DISCUSSION:

Amelia Earhart	career	opportunities
bloomers	aviator	famous
Florence Nightingale	occupation	equal rights
scientist	non-traditional	professional



WATCH AND LEARN:

1. What month is Women's History Month? (March)
2. What two famous women do we meet in the video? (Amelia Earhart and Florence Nightingale)
3. What does Francesca's mother do for a living? (Radio announcer)

PRE-TELECAST ACTIVITIES:

1. Bulletin board idea: Make a banner with a horn announcing: "Hear Ye! Hear Ye! These women made a difference!" Then make a list of women and their
2. Find pictures of women in various occupations and display them around the room. Or maybe find pictures drawn by women. **(P,I)**
3. Write a tribute to the woman you admire the most. **(P,I)**

CHECK IT OUT!

Francesca says: "Now it's your turn to talk to women who are working successfully in their field. They could have a full-time job or a part-time job. Some may be spending most of their time with their families. Interview them and ask them if their lives are different from their mother's lives and why. Tell your findings to your teachers and friends. CHECK IT OUT!"

POST-TELECAST ACTIVITIES:

1. Have mothers from the class come and visit and share information about their occupations. **(P,I)**
2. Celebrate by having a tea for mothers, aunts, grandmothers, or significant women in your students' lives. **(P,I)**
3. During the month of March, let children select books to read by their favorite women authors. **(P,I)**
4. Write to your favorite woman author, poet, actress or musician. Invite her to visit your class. If she is too far away, ask that she write back to you. **(P,I)**
5. Write to the First Lady. Ask her what she does, and ask her to write back to you. **(P,I)**
6. Write a song to pay tribute to women. **(P,I)**
7. Make a time-line featuring women's achievements, inventions and contributions. You may want to use clothesline and draw something significant about the women. For example, if you use a woman author, put her accomplishment on a drawing of a book. **(P,I)**
8. Make two lists (maybe put them on quilts) of how women's lives have changed over the years. **(P,I)**
9. Brainstorm lists of jobs that are stereotyped for women and for men. Discuss. **(P,I)**
10. Interview an older sister, aunt, mother, grandmother, neighbor, etc., and ask what life was like when they were a little girl. Ask questions about school, favorite holiday, favorite person, best time of their life, time when they got into trouble, proudest moment. If you have access to a video camera, tape it. **(P,I)**
11. Have a teacher in your school dress up as a favorite woman in history. Write questions and interview her. **(P,I)**
12. Have the students write a report entitled "Who Am I?" about a famous woman. They have to keep the report a secret. Then everyone shares and the class tries to guess who they are. **(I)**
13. As a class, make a mural showing women's jobs. If your class is too young to draw, use magazines. **(PI)**
14. Find old pictures of women and talk about how they are different from today. You may be able to check out pictures from a local library or museum. **(P,I)**
15. Create a reward to give to the favorite woman in your life. **(P,I)**
16. Have a career day and have women come and share about themselves and their jobs. You could even set up booths. **(P,I)**
17. Show old movies like "Cheaper By the Dozen" or "Meet Me in St. Louis" and talk about the role of women in these movies. Or show old TV. shows like "Donna Reed" or "Leave it to Beaver" and discuss.

BOOK LIST:

Amelia Earhart, by Mary Dodson, Wade Millbrook Press, 1992. (4-6)

Amelia's Flying Machine, by Barbra Shook Hazen, Doubleday, 1977.

A Picture Book of Florence Nightingale, by David Ader, Holiday House 1992.

Florence Nightingale, by Dorothy Turner, Bookwright, 1986. (4-6, a Great Lives book)

Lost Star, Patricia Lauber, Scholastic, 1988. (This is the Story of Amelia Earhart)

Girls Can Be Anything, By Norma Klein, Dulton, 1973.

Women's History Catalog, contact: National Women's History Project, 7738 Bell Road, Windsor CA 95492-8518