**Lesson Plan:** Slavery: Does it Still Exist?

**Grade:** Middle School

**Subjects:** Social Studies, Language Arts

**Duration:** Several days/weeks. Could be used as a unit plan for assessment of formal writing for Language Arts

**Objectives:**

* Students will **identify** the similarities and differences between slavery and child labor today
* Students will **express** their concern about child labor by **writing** a letter of concern and mailing it to a company of their choice

**Vocabulary:**

* Child Labor
* Slavery

**Snappy Launch:**

* Ask students to “think-pair-share” to the question “What do you know about slavery”
* Then ask students to “think-pair-share” to the question “Does slavery still exist?”
	+ Watch [Ending Childhood Labour](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rBzoVhw0eck)
	+ And have students watch [this video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m2W-E61ylhE&feature=related)
	+ Go over definition of slavery and child labor

Materials:

* Internet access/Smart Board
* Venn Diagram
* Notebook
* Pencil
* Envelopes and stamps

**Procedure:**

* After students watch videos, hand out a Venn diagram for students to complete together as a class comparing and contrasting slavery that once was in America to what they witnessed in the video
* Pull up the website [5 Giant Companies Who Use Slave Labor](http://www.businesspundit.com/5-giant-companies-who-use-slave-labor/) and review together as a class
* Ask students to share how this makes them feel to know that companies they know so well use child labor
* Have students pick a company out on the list from the website [5 Giant Companies Who Use Slave Labor](http://www.businesspundit.com/5-giant-companies-who-use-slave-labor/)to write a letter to about their concern about the use of child labor
	+ Companies on the website include
		- Philip Morris
		- Victoria’s Secret
		- KYE and other Chinese Factories
		- Microsoft
		- Apple
		- Forever 21, Aeropostal, Toys ‘R’ Us, Urban Outfitters
		- Hershey’s
		- Letter will be assessed (based on grade level) on grammar, spelling, and letter format so needs to be professional looking

**Assessment:**

* Student will be assessed based on the grading criteria for Language Arts
* Student will be assessed on cooperation, participation in class discussions and completing the project on time

**References:**

blackandblack1000. (2009, December 29). *Best Short Film on Child Labour*. Retrieved October 22, 2012, from YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m2W-E61ylhE&feature=related

ILOTV. (2012, June 12). *Ending Child Labour*. Retrieved October 22, 2012, from YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rBzoVhw0eck

*Invisible:Slavery Today*. (n.d.). Retrieved October 22, 2012, from National Underground Railroad: <https://freedomcenter.org/slavery-today/>

Lesson Activity “What would you do?”

**Grades 8th and up (2-3 day lesson)**

**Objectives**: Student’s will

* Be able to identify the signs and symptoms of depression
* Know the procedures to follow to get a person help

**Minnesota Standard**

8.4.4 The student will analyze the possible causes of conflict among youth in schools and communities.

* Role-play a group intervention to express concern and caring

**Launch**

I will show an episode of the TV program “What Would You Do?” and ask the students questions about it at its conclusion. The television show “What would you do?” shows a scenario and stops before the conclusion and allows the audience to decide what they would do next.

**Procedure**

I will explain that our class is going to create scenarios of a situation in which someone is suffering from depression. The class will be divided into small groups and each group will choose specific symptoms. They will research and create a short video about it. Their video will depict one aspect and the video will be stopped before the conclusion of the scenario with the question “What would you do?” Then the teacher will lead the discussion about the scenarios, asking students to identify red flags or concerns regarding a person who needs help.  The teacher will then emphasize what actions or steps should be taken in order to get the person appropriate assistance.

**Resources**

Crisis Hotline-(972) 233-2233

<http://contactcrisisline.org>

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800-273-TALK (800-273-8255)

Signs and Symptoms of Illness- <http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/mental-illness/basics/symptoms/con-20033813>

**Assessment**

Students will produce videos using the school’s flip cameras. Videos will be assessed on length, quality and content. Students will be assessed on participation, quality of work, collaboration and peer interaction. The conclusion video will be used to assess student learning and should demonstrate recommended actions that correspond to depression.

30% First Video

40% Conclusion Video

30% Participation