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5th Grade Social Studies

The Truth About Thanksgiving: So, what do we do now?

*Objective: YES!!!*

* + Students will learn about how American Indian-Settler relationships are not always portrayed correctly, and they will identify ways they can change their own relationship with American Indians by listing ways they can change and committing to learning more about our Minnesota tribes.

***Snappy Launch:***

Show students the first picture “representing” the first Thanksgiving. Ask them about the picture.

* + What does this represent?
  + How does it show the two groups of people; settlers and American Indians?
  + Is this what actually happened?

Show students the second image of Thanksgiving

* + Does anyone ever think of this when they are eating their turkey on Thanksgiving?
  + What do you see in this image that surprises you?

One major reason there are different “interpretations” of how the first Thanksgiving actually happened, and how American Indian-Settler relations were is the differences in ideals between the two people- making it difficult to understand each other. Especially when we don’t even try.

***Materials and Resources***

* + ***Writing utensils***
  + ***Graphic organizer***
  + ***Happy 1st Thanksgiving Image (attached)***
  + ***Brutal 1st Thanksgiving Image (attached)***
  + [***Ojibwe Creation Story***](http://www.ojibwe.org/home/episode6_wigwam.html?movieType=rp&fileName=Creation_Real_56k_strea)

***Vocabulary***

***Ojibwe***

***Oral Tradition***

***Community***

***Procedure***

* + What ideals do we celebrate at Thanksgiving? List on board
    - Examples
      * Sharing with one another
      * Combining of two groups of people
      * What are we thankful for?

* + What were American Indians thankful for on the “first Thanksgiving”? Anything? For a people who believe in sharing everything, and don’t really believe in “ownership” of land versus a people who want to conquer and own as much as they could- how could there be understanding and positive relationships?
    - How could we create them now?
    - At Thanksgiving we talk about sharing with others, and that is something American Indians believe in. To them, this land was created for us to live on and utilize it’s resources- but in return we must honor it and respect it as well as it’s other beings.
    - Watch Ojibwe Creation Story
    - Group Discussion: What ideas about sharing and working together were presented in the story? How could we use this in our relations with our Ojibwe neighbors, or with anyone?
    - Small Group Discussion: Write down ways you could use some of the Ojibwe ideals from the video during your Thanksgiving Celebration.
      * Also pick 2 ways you could use these ideals to create better relationships with new people in your everyday life.
      * Choose one way you are going to try and find out more about our Ojibwe neighbors, or another tribe in our area, and commit to following through with your idea.
        + We will be following up later on to check our progress, and we will create a display with artifacts/stories/pictures of interesting things we learn about our neighbors.

***Assessment***

***10 pts. for listing ways they can change using ideas from the Creation Story***

***5pt for listing at least one-way to adapt Thanksgiving***

***5pt for listing at least one way they can adapt their everyday life***

***5pts for listing at least one way they can commit to learning more about a local tribe***

***\*Teachers need to make sure and follow up with students about progress, begin display and add to it as more “data” is collected and reflected.***