Amy TenEyck

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| Before this week I can honestly say I had no first hand experiences with anyone from the Hmong community.  My only knowledge of them was negative.  I was told they are rude, and I remember years ago a Hmong man shot other hunters in the woods.  This information really bothered me because I kept thinking there has to be some logical explanation for why it is assumed that people from this culture are rude.    After watching a video called "Being Hmong Means Being Free" I developed a new respect for this culture.  I try to imagine being pulled from my homeland against my will and not knowing what happened to some of my family.  The thought of it is truly agonizing.  This culture has been through so much, and I have a great respect for them.  Homg culture is rich with tradition from Story Cloths, kidnapping of the bride, and medical procedures such as cupping.  I have to admit, the first time I saw the marks I thought this was cruel and unusual punishment.  But honestly, I don't know if it's any worse than cutting people open for common surgeries.  One last thing I want to mention is the use of the clan names.  I didn't realize there were only about 18 clan names and that most Hmong don't marry people with the same clan name because they figure they must be related somehow.      **Lesson Plan:  What is Culture?  Who are you?  Who are we?**  **Learner Objectives:**  The main objective is for students to recognize the parallels between their culture and the Hmong culture.  I want students to try and empathize with the Hmong, and other cultures that have been uprooted because of war.  Students will be able to empathize with the ancestors of the Hmong.  What would it be like if I had to leave my home country and I could never go back?  Students will better understand the origin of the Hmong and why many of the Hmong people migrated to the Minnesota.  **Snappy Launch:**  Imagine being forcibly removed from your home and told you cannot come back to your home indefinitely.  What would you do?  How would you feel?  Would you rather go to a new country, or risk being tortured just to stay in your home country?  These were similar to the choices the Hmong culture was given during the Vietnam War.  They were forced from their homes in Laos and sent to refugee camps.  Because of this, they have had to leave a lot behind, including a part of their culture.  Let’s watch the video about the Hmong culture.  While you’re watching it I want you to compare their traditions to the traditions of your own culture.  **Procedure:**   1. Start the video 2. Stop the video periodically to check for understanding and give students time to reflect on the questions. 3. Once the video is done students will have class time to finish the last two questions on the chart on their own.  After 5-7 minutes students will get into groups to discuss their answers. 4. We will finish the hour by discussing the answers they filled in on the worksheet.     **Assessment:**Students are graded based on their class participation.  I expect each student to share their answers for at least 2 of the questions on the worksheet.    **Hmong Culture Literacy**  **What is culture?  Who are you? Who are we?**  Watch the video [Hmong Culture Video](http://video.wpt.org/video/1726513324/) about the Hmong culture.  Look at the list of Hmong customs.  Think of your own family and give some examples of parts of your own culture’s customs that may be similar to the Hmong’s.  Then give example of Hmong customs based on the video.  Culture is….   * Where you and your family are from.  Many of us consider ourselves to be American, but where did your ancestors come from? (Germany, Ireland, Mexico, etc)      |  |  | | --- | --- | | **My family/ancestors come from** | **Some Hmong ancestors come from** | |  |  |      * How you and your family celebrate. (traditional clothing, birthday cake and ice cream, piñatas on birthdays, large meals together, etc)  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **How my family celebrates** | **How some Hmong families celebrate** | | Birthday: |  | | Traditional clothing: |  | | Wedding: |  | | Funeral: |  |      * What you and your family believe.  (religion, church, religious holidays, etc)  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **My religious Beliefs** | **Some Religions common among Hmong culture** | | Religion: |  | | Holy Book: |  | | Worship: |  | | Place of worship: |  | | Holidays Celebrated: |  |        |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Unusual customs in my culture** | **Unusual customs in the Hmong culture** | |  |  |        |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Good things about my culture** | **Good things about the Hmong culture** | |  |  | | | |
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