Sara Burnett

Lesson - T.H.I.N.K. Before You Speak - 10 points

Grade Level - 3rd/4th grade

Objective - Students will learn about negative terms used to describe groups of people and how they affect these people. They will use the T.H.I.N.K. model to determine if a term is good or bad.

Snappy Launch - Have you ever heard the phrase, "think before you speak"? Do you know that there is actually a good definition for each letter that can help you determine what you should be thinking about before you speak? We are going to use this model today to learn about how we should be speaking to one another and how some groups of people have had not so nice things said to them.

Vocabulary - racism, bigotry, stereotype, degrading, homophobia, xenophobia

Procedure - Discuss the definitions of the vocabulary words and ask the class to give examples. Be sure to explain how groups are classified by race, culture, LGBTQ, etc.. Write these examples on the chalkboard/whiteboard/smartboard. Discuss how the students would feel if these were used against them. Then display the following T.H.I.N.K. model for the students to use:

T - is it truthful

H - is it helpful

I - is it inspiring

N - is it necessary

K - is it kind

Distribute a worksheet that has two columns labeled good (yes) and bad (no) and T.H.I.N.K. down the side. Ask the students to write five good statements and five bad statements. The good statements should be able to answer "yes" that the statement is truthful, helpful, etc. and the bad statements should be able to answer "no" to these same statements. Each of the 5 statements must be about a different group of people (meaning race, culture, including LGBTQ).

Go around the room and ask each student to share one good (yes) and one bad (no). Have an open discussion about how the T.H.I.N.K. model can be used in other situations such as classroom behavior, talking with other people, telling stories, etc..

Assessment:

Up to 5 points for completion of worksheet

Up to 5 points for group discussion participation