

## 2015 AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY CALENDAR LESSON PLAN

Month/Honoree(s): **David Holmes Swinton, PhD/December**

Lesson Title: Improving the College Experience

Grade Level/Course: 3<sup>rd</sup> -8<sup>th</sup>

Subject: Visual and Performing Arts/English Language Arts

SC Academic Standards and Skills Addressed:

- VA3-1            The student will demonstrate competence in the use of ideas, materials, techniques, and processes in the creation of works of visual art.
- VA3-6            The student will make connections between the visual arts and other arts disciplines, other content areas, and the world.
- W3-2            Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

Introductory Statement/Lesson Overview: As the current president of Benedict College, Dr. Swinton has overseen the reconstruction and improvement of the campus, creating more schools and programs, more dorms and dozens of new buildings for a more effective higher educational experience.

Goals/Lesson Objectives: Students will be able to research the accomplishments of Dr. Swinton and replicate one or more of his building projects using Legos.

Instructional Materials:

- 2015 African American History Calendar
- <http://www.benedict.edu/cms/?q=node/124>
- <http://www.ecampustours.com/tour-home-page.aspx?UnitID=217721#.VHoHpDTF9Ao>
- Lego blocks for construction

Lesson Progression:

**Activity 1:** Teacher will lead a discussion about Dr. Swinton and some of his accomplishments. Students will be divided into groups. Each group will be responsible for constructing one of the building projects that Dr. Swinton has completed since he became the president of the college. The groups will meet, read the information about Dr. Swinton from the website and the calendar. The students will need to write as a group, a

brief (150 words) biography of Dr. Swinton, discussing any three of his major accomplishments.

**Activity 2:** The group of students will meet and discuss his various building projects. The group will then go to the website and tour the Benedict College. They will virtually tour the college buildings and as a group, decide which building they will replicate. The students will draw a picture of how their design will look. (There are more, but here are a few choices that students have: Morgan and Pratt Halls, 45,000 sq. ft. student center, Honors Dorm, Upper Classman Dorm, football stadium, etc.)

**Activity 3:** Using Legos, the students will build a model of the building and label the building with its name and type of building. Also, the brief biography will need to be next to the building. (For buildings that did not have a model or virtual tour, students can use their imagination based on the information in the research as to how the building should be constructed.)

#### Extensions/Differentiation

- Teachers can choose to let the each group design a different building and when each group has completed their building, all of the building can be arranged together to create a mini Benedict College Campus.
- For more advanced students, this can be an individual project and not a group project. The written information can also be a research paper as well.
- This can be a one day assignment if the research is completed outside of classroom and the construction completed in the classroom. The teacher would need to show the virtual tour of the building in class.
- If Legos are not available, any art supplies that would allow the students to construct a replica of a building are sufficient.

#### Assessment:

##### Check List:

- The completed 150 word biography with at least three of Dr. Swinton's accomplishments.
- The completed building, built with Legos.
- The building properly labeled with name and type of building.

#### Developed by:

Celena Dupree – Broad River Elementary School – Beaufort School District

