

2015 AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY CALENDAR LESSON PLAN

Month/Honoree(s): September/Willie R. Rogers

Lesson Title: Willie R. Rogers-Principal/Farmer

Grade Level/Course: K-2

Subject: Social Studies/Music

SC Academic Standards and Skills Addressed: SCVIII.B. Integrate music into creative writing, storytelling, poetry, dance, theater, visual arts, and other disciplines

Introductory Statement/Lesson Overview: Willie R. Rogers was born on a farm in Olanta, SC to sharecropper parents. He joined the military and later graduated from Benedict College in Columbia, SC. He worked for 33 years in the school system, where he was a teacher, assistant principal, principal and Director of Adult and Continuing Education. Richland County honored Rogers with an education center named for him. Rogers never forgot his roots, and often told people that the most important things in his life were his family, his faith, education, and his cows.

Goals/Lesson Objectives: To learn about the accomplishments of a person of authority.

Instructional Materials: paper, pencils, crayons, whiteboard, markers, student journals, AT&T African American Calendar.

Lesson Progression and Time Frame:

Activity 1: Introduce the new words: sharecropper, principal, roots. Write the words for display and explain the meaning of each one.

- Sharecropper-a farmer who farms another's land for a share of the crop or money.
- Principal-the head of a school
- Roots-where your family began a long time ago

Activity 2: Read the text about Willie R. Rogers, either from the lesson overview or from the calendar page. Show the picture of Mr. Rogers to students.

Activity 3: Introduce and sing the lyrics to the song, "The Farmer in the School" (tune of "The Farmer in the Dell")

1. Willie Rogers worked at school
Willie Rogers worked at school
Hi-Ho the cherry-o

- Willie Rogers worked at school.
2. At school, he led the kids
At school he led the kids
Hi-Ho the cherry-o
At school, he led the kids.
 3. Willie Rogers had a farm
Willie Rogers had a farm
Hi-Ho the cherry-o
Willie Rogers had a farm.
 4. On the farm, he fed the cows
On the farm, he fed the cows
Hi-Ho the cherry-o
On the farm, he fed the cows.
 5. He loved them both the same
He loved them both the same
Hi-Ho the cherry-o
He loved them both the same.

Extensions/Differentiation

- Ask children to finish this sentence in their writing journals: “If I were principal for a day, I would . . . “

Assessment: Draw a picture of Willie Rogers, his school, and/or his cows. Write a sentence about your picture.

Developed by:

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