

Power of Positivity



by

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RACIAL EQUITY IN SCHOOLS ACTIVITY

POWER OF POSITIVITY

Description: Felicia Henderson shares a class read aloud in which students learn that they have power within themselves that will help them overcome all obstacles and it starts with positive thoughts and words. Students make text to self connections to the main character in Akua is Great. Students then engage in a rich conversation as they use their power of positivity to proclaim a positive affirmation for themselves.

Grade Level: Grade 1

Target Subject: Other/Elective; Social Emotional Learning

Topic(s): Social Emotional Learning

Intended Student Learning Outcome(s)/Objective(s)/Skill(s):

- Self-Awareness: Students demonstrate awareness of personal strengths and build confidence.
- Develop an empowering classroom community.

Materials Used from the AdoptAClassroom.org Marketplace* and other materials/resources:

- Akua is Great by Dr Artika Renee Tyner
- Affirmation Jar
- Chart paper- to write students' positive affirmations
- Expo Markers

Directions

- Teacher introduces 2 vocabulary words: Positive and Affirmation. Students are encouraged to share prior knowledge of the vocabulary words. Then teacher defines the words.
- Teacher reads the story Akua is Great. Throughout the read-aloud, allow students to make connections to the character and experiences in the story.
- After the story, teacher gives the students 1 example of a positive affirmation for herself and writes it on the chart paper.
- Teacher encourages students to think and name something positive about themselves, something they are proud of about themselves.

Extension Activity:

- Each morning for morning work, students can choose a different affirmation for themselves and write it in their journals.
- Affirmation Jar: this is an attitude booster for students who seem to have a bumpy day and may be feeling discouraged. They can pick an affirmation from the jar as a friendly reminder that they are worthy and incredible students. The hope is that it will be an instant positive boost to their self-esteem.

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