

Lesson: Citizenship Grades K-3

Topic: Honoring the Human Experience



Hall of Fame Stamp of Approval

Introduction: Students will use the National Baseball Hall of Fame web site to research Baseball Hall of Famers. Students will use their research ideas to persuade the United States Post Office to honor a Hall of Famer with their own stamp. Students will design a stamp honoring their chosen Hall of Famer or Casey of the Mudville Nine.

Learning Outcomes:

National Outcomes:

1. People, Places and Environments

Ohio Learning Outcomes:

1. Students use materials drawn from the diversity of human experience to analyze and interpret significant events, patterns and themes in the history of the United States.
2. Use problem-solving skills to make decisions individually and in groups.

Getting Started:

Materials:

- Internet access to the National Baseball Hall of Fame's website
<http://www.baseballhalloffame.org/default.htm>
- U.S. Postal Service Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee website at
<http://www.usps.com/communications/organization/csac.htm>

Vocabulary:

- Honor
- Hall of Fame

Lesson:

Orientation Activity:

1. Discuss the meaning of the terms "honor" and "Hall of Fame."
2. Name some other baseball players who you think may be in the Hall of Fame (or deserve to be). Why do we honor people? Some people are honored for their place in history by having their images displayed on post office stamps. Why should we honor baseball players by designing stamps to remember them? Should Casey be honored with a U.S. Postal stamp?
3. Browse the U.S. Post Office stamp web site for examples of stamps that have honored different people in the past. Why is baseball history important?
4. Model for the students how to find information on Hall of Fame members through the use of the National Baseball Hall of Fame web site.
5. Ask students to pinpoint which facts would be good to use when trying to persuade the U.S. Post Office to accept your stamp design.

Learning Activity:

1. Choose a Hall of Fame player to use as a model, such as Jackie Robinson.
2. Go to the Hall of Fame web site and list what facts are important to remember when using persuasion.
3. Next, students should choose their own Hall of Famer or they could choose a character from The Children's Theater musical, *Casey at the Bat*.
4. Ask student to write down at least four facts that support their baseball player's bid for a stamp.
5. Review the procedure for writing a letter.
6. Students will write a letter to the U.S. Post Office Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee offering their design for consideration for a new stamp.
7. Next, students will design a stamp that honors their baseball player.
8. After the students have completed the tasks, have them share their letters and stamps as a group.
9. Additionally, stamps ideas can be sent to the U.S. Post Office at Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, c/o Stamp Development, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Room 5670, Washington, D.C. 20260-2437.

Evaluation and Follow-Up:

Assessment Tools and Methods:

Their letter should include:

- The student's reason for asking for stamp consideration in honor their Hall of Famer.
- Who you are and what you are studying.
- Why people should remember the player.
- And at least four of the following:
 - Personal traits of the player
 - Awards
 - Records
 - Description of the players history
 - Statistics

Interdisciplinary Connections:

- Writing - Create a Hall of Fame for your school or town, including key faculty members, students and/or volunteers