WV TREE Resource:

English Language Arts

Resource Name: Understanding Disabilities Research Project

Grade Level(s): [ ]  5th Grade [ ]  6th Grade [ ]  7th Grade [x]  8th Grade [ ]  9th Grade

 [ ]  10th Grade [ ]  11th Grade [ ]  12th Grade

Resource Summary/Overview: In this lesson from Teaching Tolerance, students work in small groups to research various disabilities, jigsaw to teach others about the disability, and explore ways to communicate sensitively with people who have disabilities.

Length: Three 45-minute class periods

Domain(s) Addressed: [ ]  Reading [x]  Writing [x]  Speaking/Listening [ ]  Language

West Virginia College- and Career-Readiness Standards:

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| ELA.8.26 | Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration. |
| ELA.8.27 | Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation (e.g., MLA or APA). |
| ELA.8.30 | Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others’ ideas and expressing ideas clearly. * Come to discussions prepared, having read or researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion.
* Follow rules for collegial discussions and decision-making, track progress toward specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed.
* Pose questions that connect the ideas of several speakers and respond to others’ questions and comments with relevant evidence, observations, and ideas.
* Acknowledge new information expressed by others and, when warranted, qualify or justify views in light of the evidence presented.
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Delivery Method(s): [ ]  Direct Instruction [ ]  Whole Group [x]  Pairs
 [x]  Small Group [ ]  Computer-based [ ]  Individual
 [ ]  Other (explain): Click here to enter text.

Resource Materials: [ ]  Text(s) [x]  Handouts [ ]  Media [ ]  Rubric

 [x]  Other (explain): Instructional plan

Resource Purpose(s): [x]  Engage/Activate [ ]  Introduce Topic/Skill [ ]  Review Topic/Skill

 [x]  Formative Assessment [ ]  Summative Assessment

 [x]  Reinforce Skill [ ]  Enrichment [ ]  Intervention/Support

 [ ]  Other (explain): Click here to enter text.

Instructor Notes: Students must have access to internet-connected devices to complete the activity. The lesson plan is available at <http://www.tolerance.org/supplement/understanding-disabilities-middle-grades>.