

What is Courage?

Suggested Application: Social Studies, Language Arts, Vietnam War, War on Terror (Afghanistan)

OBJECTIVES

Students will:

- define courage and give examples of courage in varied circumstances

Medal of Honor Focus: Jack Jacobs, U.S. Army, Vietnam War; or Clinton Romesha, U.S. Army, War on Terror (Afghanistan)

Introductory Activity:

The teacher will ask students to write five to seven lines defining courage and describing an action that demonstrates true courage. Students will share and discuss their responses with a partner.

Whole Group Activity:

The teacher will copy the graphic organizer on the board, working from the inner circle to the outer circle as the lesson proceeds (can be done as a three-column chart if desired). The students will also copy the graphic organizer. The teacher will ask students for words or phrases that are synonyms for courage and tell students to write their responses in the inner circle of the graphic organizer. The class will then give examples of courage, writing them in the second circle. The students will view the video of Jack Jacobs or Clinton Romesha. While viewing, the students will write examples of courage from the video in the outer circle of the graphic organizer.

Small Group/Individual Activity:

The students will share their own graphic organizer with a partner and compare examples of courage from the video.

Whole Group Activity:

The teacher will ask the class for examples from Jack Jacobs's video or Clinton Romesha's video and write them into the graphic organizer on the board.

Concluding Activity:

The teacher will ask students to define courage in their own words and discuss differences between their initial impression and their reflection after completing this activity.

Assessment:

Written definition, reflection, graphic organizer, discussion

Resources:

Living History video for Jack Jacobs or Clinton Romesha, graphic organizer

Name _____ Period _____

