

# Gathering Oral History

Tiffany Clark

Our Place in Time - Local History

Gathering Oral History

Children will understand the definition of oral history and participate in gathering the oral history of their home.

Materials:

Paper or notebook to record in class and questions and answers

Homework worksheet titled: Oral History Homework

Rationale: The purpose of this lesson is to impress upon the children that they are an active part of history. It is also to teach them the importance of record keeping. Further they are beginning to gather information that will be used on their final projects.

Method: Ask a child to volunteer. Start interviewing them about what they remember about last year's Leal Olympics (or other event). Jot down notes on the board. Hold about a five-minute interview.

When finished ask the children what they saw to encourage interaction and processing on the children's part.

Let the children know they were watching oral history being told and recorded.

Have the children write a list of questions they would ask someone from our class about the first day of school this year.

Pair the kids and let them practice asking each other questions and recording answers.

Tell the children they will be doing this type of interviewing to learn more about their homes and families. Take questions.

The children will take home the worksheet and interview parents and/or neighbors. (Review safety information too, don't talk to strangers without a parent with you, etc)

Assessment will be done on the worksheet after it is handed in. Children will be given the opportunity to add to, re-do, or complete the homework as needed. This information will be used for final project and is necessary to have.