of Thee I Sing by Barack Obama

Integrate Reading, Writing, Social Studies, Technology

Reading: Students analyze, make inferences and draw conclusions about the author’s purpose in cultural, historical, and contemporary contexts and provide evidence from the text to support their understanding. Students are expected to:
1.13(A) identify the topic and explain the author’s purpose in writing about the text.

Writing:
1.19(C) write brief comments on literary or informational texts.

Social Studies:
1.12 the student understands characteristics of good citizenship as exemplified by historic figures and ordinary people
(A) Identify contributions by historical figures such as Abraham Lincoln
(C) Identify ordinary people who exemplify good citizenship and exhibit a love of individualism and inventiveness.
1.18(B) create visual and written material including pictures
Before Reading: [http://www.hymnsite.com/lyrics/umh697.sht](http://www.hymnsite.com/lyrics/umh697.sht)
This website has the words and the music to My Country 'Tis of Thee where students can hear the line, "of Thee I sing". Project the site onto a screen and play the tune. Ask students what the words and music mean to them. What do you think this song has in relation to this book?
Then display the book cover. Ask students the following questions:
"What do we know about the author of this story?"
"What clues does the title give us about the story?"
"Why do you think the author chose this title?"
"Why am I reading this?"
"I see pictures of historical figures like Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King. What do we already know about Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King?"
"I see pictures of ordinary people like Helen Keller, Georgia O’Keeffe and Maya Lin. What predictions can we make about this book?"
"What predictions can we make about the author’s message?"

During Reading:
Read the cover sheet and reread the title. To whom is the author writing this story?
After reading the first six pages, ask the students what they notice about the author’s organization of the story. (He is writing a letter and asking a question. He gives a word and then he presents a person who is an example of the meaning of the word.)
What do we understand about Sitting Bull? Helen Keller? Maya Lin?
What is the main idea about Jane Addams? MLK? Cesar Chavez?
Which part do we need to reread so that we can understand the author’s message?
After Reading:
“What predictions were confirmed?”
“What details in the text confirmed your predictions?”
“What were the main ideas and themes presented in the text?”
“How did the author organize his text?”
“Do you think President Obama was writing this book only for his daughters?”
“What connections did you make to the President Obama’s message?”

Reading Response Log: Students will write brief comments on the literary text by making a personal connection or choosing to write about the author’s message.

Social Studies: 1.18(B) create visual and written material including pictures

Students will make a book in box using the district template that has been adapted to be used with this book.

Students will copy and paste pictures and captions from the worksheet onto the template.

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