



AIM

AMERICA IS ME

Curriculum and Teaching
Resources for Equity and Unity

Equality and Equity Group

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AIM provides educators with curricular resources to examine, discuss, and assess students' understanding of equity issues central to the development of US history and contemporary society.

- **AIM** cultivates respect for human diversity.
- **AIM** equips students to foster healthy intercultural relationships.
- **AIM** prepares leaders to reshape US society.



AMERICA IS ME



Solidarity (Unity)

AIM treats conflicts between various social groups as a path to solidarity and national unity.



Social Change (Difference Making)

AIM helps youth to understand how they can engage to improve their local communities & peer groups.



INTERCULTURAL SKILLS



Sociocultural Exchange (Communication)

AIM assists students in developing cross cultural understandings & communication skills.



Social Emotional Wellness (Self-Concept)

AIM seeks to build a healthy sense of self as a central curricular objective.



Social Awareness (Empathy)

AIM promotes higher levels of personal awareness concerning how individual or group behavior impacts the lives of others.



The Real World: The Difference Education Makes

High School Lesson Plan



The Real World

Lesson Simulation

Objectives

7th Grade - Students will be able to properly interpret and apply the median as a measure of center by determining weekly living expenses given a median weekly income for varying educational levels by racial groups in the United States.

8th Grade - Students will be able to interpret patterns of association in a data table of weekly income for varying educational levels with a minimum of two racial groups and apply their understanding by completing a weekly budget.



The Real World: Understanding the Difference Education Makes



The Real World

Lesson Simulation - 20 Minutes



Small Group Reflection Questions

Discuss the questions below to help you decide which living expenses to choose and what changes you would make to your budget with more income.

- Do we need this expense for safety and survival?
- Have we considered the needs of all family members?
- If we had more income, what is one change we would make and why?

The Real World Lesson Simulation

Student Handout

The Real World: Understanding the Difference Education Makes

Children First
IDRA
Transforming Education

Real World Worksheet All expenses are *per week*.

Food

Local Store Food: \$50 | (cheap, but close to expiration)
Aldi Foods: \$60 | (cheap and lower quality)
Walmart: \$70 | (reasonable price and reasonable quality)
Meijer, HEB, Kroger, etc.: \$100 | (above average price, fresher and store)
Whole Foods: \$125 | (high price, organic product and exclusive brands)

Housing

State Moderate Rental Housing Program | 2 bedroom: \$89; 3 bedroom:
Cheap Apartment: \$150 | 2 bedroom, 1 bath (affordable temporary, sch
Apartment: \$300 | 2 bedroom, 1 bath (affordable, school district poor or
Apartment: \$360 | 3 bedroom, 1 bath (affordable, school district poor or
Townhome: \$375 | 3 bedroom, 2 bath (nice long-term renting, good sch
Starter home: \$400 | 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath (first home purchase, good in
Family home: \$500 | 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath (long-term family home, great

Sample Budget Table

Based on Median Weekly Income of \$619

	Which weekly expenses did your group select?	How much will it cost?	Starting Weekly Income - \$619 / Week
Food	Aldi	\$60	\$619 - \$60 = \$559
Housing	2 bedroom apartment (poor school district)	\$300	\$559 - \$300 = \$259
Utilities	All	\$145	\$259 - \$145 = \$114
Transportation	Small economy car	\$65	\$114 - \$65 = \$49
Entertainment	Option 1 - Netflix	\$5	\$49 - \$5 = \$44
			Remaining Income \$44

Say Her Name: Michelle Obama

Elementary Lesson Plan



Say Her Name: First Lady Michelle Obama

by Dr. Kelly N. Ferguson and Dr. Marlon C. James
Equality and Equity Group, LLC



America is Me (AIM) provides educators with curricular resources to promote students' understanding of equity issues central to the development of U.S. history and contemporary society. AIM lessons develop five critical intercultural skills of solidarity (national unity), social-emotional wellness (positive self-identity), sociocultural exchange (cross-cultural communication skills), social change (active citizenship), and social awareness (sensitivity). These skills are transferable across academic content areas and are critical for personal maturation and professional success in a diverse nation.



Solidarity (Unity Building)	Social Awareness (My Impact on Others)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social-Emotional Wellness (Healthy Self Concept)	Sociocultural Exchange (Cross-Cultural Communication)	Social Change (Difference Making)
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Social-Emotional Wellness - Students will create a poem or short story about why they matter to help them recognize what makes them unique.

Say Her Name: First Lady Michelle Obama



For this lesson, students will read the text entitled *Michelle Obama: First Lady, Going Higher*. They will learn about the important experiences that shaped the life of the first Black First Lady of the United States. Students also will understand Mrs. Obama's commitment to service and education and how she inspires children to be healthy. Students will draw lessons from Mrs. Obama's life to write a poem or short story about why they matter.



Students will be able to identify key details about Michelle Obama's life in the text *Michelle Obama: First Lady, Going Higher*.

Students will identify their individual strengths through expository writing.



Activate prior knowledge about the former First Lady of the United States of America. Display an image of Michelle Obama. Prompt students with questions: Who is this? What does it mean to be the First Lady of the United States?



Common Core Standards

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.1

Ask and answer such questions as *who, what, where, when, why, and how* to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.4

Determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text relevant to a *Grade 2 topic or subject area*.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.6

Identify the main purpose of a text, including what the author wants to answer, explain or describe.



Corey, Shana. (2018) *Michelle Obama: First Lady, Going Higher*. Random House Children's Books.

Say Her Name: First Lady Michelle Obama



Checking for Understanding Question Guide

What city was Michelle Obama born in?	Who did Michelle share a room with as a kid?	What types of things did Michelle do to have fun?	What did Michelle's parents teach her?
What grade did Michelle skip in school because she was smart?	Why did Michelle want to go to Princeton University?	What were some activities Michelle did in school?	Why did Michelle's college roommate not want to be her roommate?
Where did Michelle go to law school?	Where did Michelle meet Barack Obama?	How many children did Michelle and her husband have?	When Senator Obama wanted to run for President, who did he ask for approval?
How did Michelle help Barack Obama win the presidential election?	Why was being First Lady hard for Michelle Obama?	As the First Lady, what did Michelle believe was her most important job?	How did Michelle help children in the United States?
	What was the Reach Higher Program?	What do you think the quote from Michelle Obama means? "Do not ever let anyone make you feel you don't matter... because you do. And you have a right to be exactly who you are."	

Check for Understanding Question Guide



Name: _____ Date: _____

Say Her Name: First Lady Michelle Obama



Word Puzzle



Directions: Fill in the missing words for each sentence, then find the word in the puzzle below.

Word Bank

healthy	Chicago	college
skin	Princeton	United States

- Michelle Obama was born in the city of _____ on January 17, 1964.
- In high school, Michelle worked really hard to attend _____ University.
- When Michelle married Barack Obama, she became the first Black First Lady of the _____ of America.
- There were times that Michelle Obama was treated unfairly as the First Lady because of the color of her _____.
- "Let's Move" is a program that Michelle Obama created to encourage children to develop lifelong _____ habits.
- "Reach Higher" was created by Michelle Obama to help students to attend _____ after graduating from high school.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Say Her Name: First Lady Michelle Obama



Word Puzzle



Word Bank

Directions: Find the terms in the word bank in the word search below.

healthy

skin

Chicago

Princeton

college

United States

U	T	G	K	V	H	F	E	P	T	M	P	S	K	V
V	W	R	S	Q	X	M	Y	F	H	V	B	I	X	C
X	W	G	V	L	F	K	A	P	K	E	T	N	I	Y
J	B	P	U	N	I	T	E	D	S	T	A	T	E	S
P	A	M	P	M	N	H	O	X	X	Q	W	W	Q	
N	F	Y	R	O	S	Y	Q	P	J	R	M	S	N	I
L	Q	B	I	H	E	A	L	T	H	Y	T	Q	E	I
S	A	H	N	B	T	B	Z	A	R	A	W	V	Z	H
B	B	A	C	I	H	G	R	S	K	I	N	C	T	D
T	C	L	E	R	T	E	H	C	C	H	C	H	X	K
L	V	U	T	D	W	M	T	W	E	O	P	I	I	L
C	B	V	O	R	T	D	S	P	L	U	H	C	F	O
B	V	C	N	E	E	W	B	I	W	K	T	A	V	Z
V	B	Q	X	K	M	I	I	B	H	V	P	G	F	C
C	M	C	O	L	L	E	G	E	N	J	Z	O	M	G

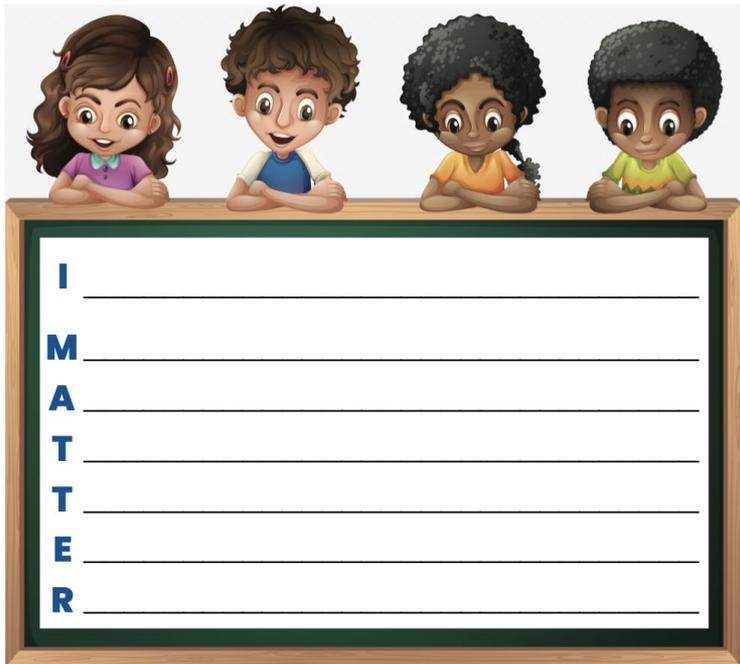
Name: _____ Date: _____

Say Her Name: Michelle Obama - I Matter

Read the quote below from Michelle Obama. Use the first letter of each word in the phrase "I Matter" to write a poem or story about why you matter.

"Do not ever let anyone make you feel you don't matter . . . because you do. And you have a right to be exactly who you are."

-Michelle Obama



The illustration shows four diverse children (two girls and two boys) sitting at a wooden table. Below them is a large writing board with a wooden frame and a green border. The board has six horizontal lines for writing. On the left side of the board, the letters 'I', 'M', 'A', 'T', 'T', 'E', and 'R' are written vertically, one on each line, serving as a starting point for a poem or story.

Writing Activity



