

Teachers Notes

Current Native Issues- Hair

Objectives:

Objective 1: Be able to explain how Thunder's Hair relates to current native issues Indigenous people face in schools in regards to hair.

Objective 2: Provide a personal connection how is form of expression and to have an understanding from a native perspective to hair.

Objective 3: Provide an example or two on how students can educate others on bullying and Native hair.

Background

- The book "Thunder's Hair" by Jessie Taken Alive-Rencountre was created after an incident in Oklahoma when a non-native school bully attacked and cut of a Native boys hair. Many more incidences around the US of bullying Native kids because of their hair have also been reported in mainstream media. To showcase the importance of Native beauty, these books are geared toward the younger generations to help them understand and to take pride in their Native culture.

Preparation for activity.

- Have the students spend a few minutes reviewing different news reports of Native Hair related issues.
- After, have a class discussion about this issue.
 - Questions to ask:
 - How might I feel if someone cut my hair?
 - How is my hair a reflection of myself?
 - If the students bullying had known about the cultural ties to Native hair, would they have cut the boys hair?
 - What if it was the other way around? Would the consequences of the bully be different or taken more seriously?
- Conclude with "Braiding Activity" worksheet.

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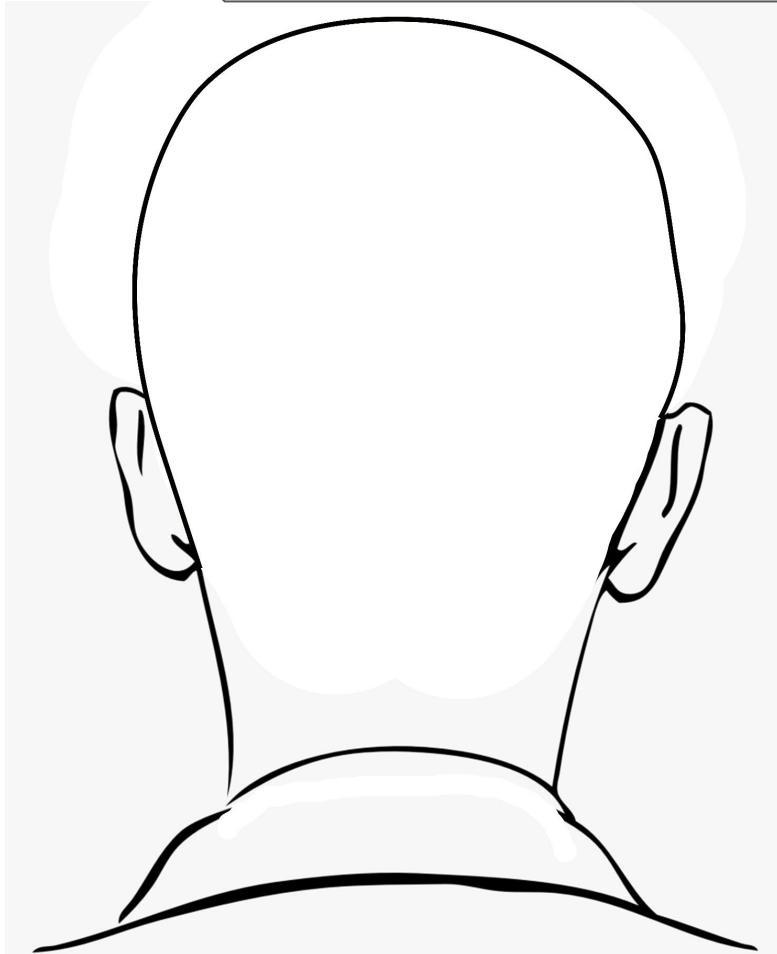
y'ay'áwt:



štapəm škiyáw'qn

Braiding Activity

Directions: You will glue škiyáw'qn on the head below. Once the glue has dried braid your hair and answer the questions below. .



<u>Past</u> How has your past shaped who you are now?	<u>Present</u> What about yourself and your accomplishments are helping you for your future?	<u>Future</u> My goals for the next 2 years are...