



Objective:

1. The students will be able to chronicle the life of James Weldon Johnson and his place in Florida history.

Sunshine State Standards Benchmarks:

SS.A.1.1 – SS.A.6.2.3 – SS.A.6.2.4 – VA.B.1.2.1 – VA.E.1.2.1

Vocabulary:

diplomat headwaiter reflect rural discrimination
embrace diverse

Suggested Activities:

1. Have the students create a Historical Hero Award highlighting James Weldon Johnson's many achievements. Using the Hero Award worksheet, have the students list on each of the ribbons, a fact or achievement attained by the designated person.
2. Have the students complete the Report Card for James Weldon Johnson. The students will be rating aspects of Johnson's life on a scale of 1-5. In addition, the students will be asked to write comments for each rating. The comments should be based on specific details and information from the passage.
3. Have the students research the Harlem Resistance, which both James Weldon Johnson and Zora Neale Hurston were involved with.
4. Have the students research information about the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and invite a guest speaker from one of the local chapters to visit.
5. Complete and review FCAT questions.

(Note: Actual FCAT practice passages are written at the students' independent reading level. These Florida History selections are written at the students' instructional reading level. Therefore, students should not be asked to complete the questions until after receiving class instruction on the vocabulary and content of the passage. Students should also read the Florida History selection independently before answering the FCAT questions and be permitted to return to the selection for rereading as they answer.)