

CULTIVATING AN ATHLETE'S MIND

CLASSROOM ACTIVITY: SPORTS BOOKS CLUSTERS

GRADE 6 CURRICULAR LINKS

Language arts

OBJECTIVES

Students will...

- Learn about how sport can foster personal growth.
- Learn about the lives of professional athletes.
- Learn about the stories of local heroes celebrated at the NBSHF.
- Learn about problem solving.

RESOURCES

(book suggestions)

- Free Baseball by Sue Corbett
- The Boy Who Saved Baseball by John Ritter
- Dan Guttman's Million Dollar series including Million Dollar Kick, Million Dollar Strike, and Million Dollar Putt.

THE MAIN GOAL:

Students will learn about the multifaceted learning experiences that sport can teach. Students will read and present about books featuring sport at the core of their stories. Students will be introduced to the stories of local heroes.

CLASSROOM ACTIVITY (ABOUT 30 MINUTES PER WEEK, MAY VARY)

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Books (selected by the class).
- Writing materials or devices.

CLASSROOM ACTIVITY

Pick three or four (depending on class size) sports related books to read in class. Summarize each book before the class and allow students to choose which book they would like to read. Have students read a certain number of chapters each week, and then reflect with others in their book cluster about what they have read.

In their reflections, students should ask themselves:

- What challenge was encountered by the main or secondary characters?
- What resolutions were found?
- What was learned from that challenge/resolutions?
- What word could summarize this learning experience?
- Can this learning experience be applied to an event in your own personal life? Give an example.

Students may prepare a summary of reading once the book is completed which includes their personal reflections on the learning experience that took place in the story featured in the book.

Students may additionally want to research about stories told about local sports heroes:

- Who are some of the sports heroes in your area?
- Are there stories written/told about athletes/builders from your area?
- Research; books, newspaper articles, history, and the internet for stories about local sports heroes.

