

iCONN Learning Activity

What is Courage?

Level: Middle School

Task: Read a book such as: *So Far From the Bamboo Grove*, *Year of the Impossible Goodbyes*, *Fallen Angels*, *After the First Death* or *Sparrow Red Hawk*. Write your definition of courage. Interview at least 3 people and ask them to define courage. Read and collect newspaper and magazine articles that demonstrate courage. Write an explanation of how each article demonstrates courage and why you chose that article. Use the internet to find quotations on courage. Write about whether or not the book you have chosen demonstrates your definition of courage. Write your final definition of courage.

Research Question: What is courage?

Content Area(s): Language Arts, Learning Resources and Information Technology

State Content Area Standard(s):

Language Arts:

1. Reading and Responding: How do we understand what we read?
Students will make reasonable inferences from explicit and /or implicit information.
Students will interpret information that is implied, not directly stated.
2. Exploring and Responding to Literature: How does literature enrich our lives?
Students will discuss how the experiences of a reader influence the interpretation of text.
Students will discuss how books they read influence what they think and experience.
3. Exploring multiple responses to literature.
Students will explain connections among literary works, other texts, and the world.
Students will make and support conclusions about literature by referring to multiple passages across genres.

Learning Resources and Information Technology:

3. Students will demonstrate a command of information skills and strategies to locate and use effectively print, nonprint and/or electronic resources to solve problems, conduct research and pursue personal interests.

iCONN Database(s): *InfoTrac Student Edition*, *InfoTrac Junior Edition*, *Expanded Academic ASAP*

Search Strategy:

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Open *InfoTrac Student Edition*
4. Click on *Subject Guide Search*
5. Type *courage* in the search box

6. Click on the box labeled *Limit results to documents will full text*
7. Click on *Search*, then click on *Subdivisions* under the heading *Courage* and choose the subheading *Personal Narratives*
8. Click on title or *Full-text* to read articles

Alternate Search Strategy:

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Open *InfoTrac Student Edition*
4. Click on *Subject Guide Search*
5. Type ***courage*** in the search box
6. Click on the box labeled *Limit results to documents will full text*
7. Click the *Search* button
8. Click on *Related Subjects*
9. Click on *Heroism*
10. Click on a title in the citation list (or *Full-text*) to view a specific article

Adaptations for Differentiated Learning:

iCONN Database: *InfoTrac Junior Edition*

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Open *InfoTrac Junior Edition*
4. Type ***courage*** in the search box
5. Click on *Find*
6. Click on *View*
7. Click on a title or *Check Out Text* to read an article

iCONN Database: *Expanded Academic ASAP*

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Open *Expanded Academic ASAP**
4. Click on *Subject Guide Search*
5. Type ***courage*** in the search box
6. Click on the box labeled *Limit results to documents will full text*
7. Click the *Search* button
8. Click on *Related Subjects*
9. Click on *Heroism*
10. Click on a title in the citation list (or *Full-text*) to view a specific article

[NOTE*: In the new, tabbed *Power Search* interface from Gale, you will need to take different steps to get these results. You will notice a difference between the “classic Gale interface” and the Power Search interface. For example, in the Power Search, once you’ve searched for the subject ***courage***, you will have to click on *Subdivisions*. Then, under the “Topics” tab, look for *Personal Narratives*. Click on *Personal Narratives* to get a list of articles similar to the *Courage—Heroes—Personal Narratives* search results shown in the instructions above, which were designed for the classic interface. Click on an article title (or click on “Full text”, “Full text with graphics”, or other choice below the article title) to view the full content of the article.]

Submitted by:
Maria Freitag, Joanne Ceglarski and Cathy Sosnowski
Chippens Hill Middle School
Bristol, CT
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