**Lesson Plan**

**"Religious Freedom in a Multicultural School" - Human Rights**

|  |
| --- |
| Author: Susana Maria Campos Veloso da Silva |

|  |
| --- |
| Lesson title:Religious Freedom in a Multicultural School – Human Rights |

|  |
| --- |
| Lesson brief description: This lesson plan aims to explore the concept of religious freedom and its importance in a multicultural environment. Through interactive activities, discussions, and case studies, students will be encouraged to reflect on religious diversity, understand the challenges related to prejudice, and develop skills to promote respect and inclusion. The lesson highlights shared values among different beliefs and empowers students to practice tolerance and interfaith dialogue, contributing to harmonious coexistence in the school and society. |

|  |
| --- |
| Time (Lesson duration): 4 lessons 50 minutes  |

|  |
| --- |
| Methodology: Dialogued Lecture, Group Work, Case Study and Dramatization, Creative Activities, Debates and Discussions |

|  |
| --- |
| Materials needed: • Audiovisual materials: short videos about religions and religious freedom.• Maps and infographics.• Copies of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.• Articles or texts for reading. |

|  |
| --- |
| Students’ age: 15 years old  |

|  |
| --- |
| Aims/Goals or SWBATs (Students will be able to......)* Introduce the concept of religious freedom and its importance.
* Explore religious diversity and how it enriches a multicultural society.
* Identify challenges, prejudices, and discrimination that threaten religious freedom.
* Empower students to apply respect for and appreciation of religious freedom in their lives.
 |

|  |
| --- |
| Lead-in *What’s going to happen here to introduce your students to the topic?* Time 10 minutes.Ver o vídeo: **"One Human Family” -** A short video showing how peaceful coexistence among different religions can be achieved.Comment on the video: What did you think? What is the message? What values does it convey? |

|  |
| --- |
| *What key-concepts could teachers focus on? What needs to be pre-taught?* Time 15 minutesLiberdade Religiosa* Direitos Humanos
* Multiculturalismo
* (In)tolerância Religiosa
* Discriminação Religiosa
* Diálogo Inter-religioso
* Direitos das Minorias Religiosas
 |

|  |
| --- |
| *List of activities with brief description of each one and time for each one:***Lesson 1: What is Religious Freedom?****Objective:**Introduce the concept of religious freedom and its importance.**Content:*** Definition of religious freedom.
* Religious freedom in human rights (Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 18).
* Examples of religious freedom in different countries.

**Activities:**1. **Icebreaker:** Present an inspiring quote about religious freedom and ask, "What does this mean to you?"
2. **Presentation:** Brief presentation on the concept and legal foundations of religious freedom.
3. **Group Discussion:** Divide students into small groups to note what they consider essential for religious freedom and share their responses.

**Homework:**Research historical or contemporary examples of struggles or advances in religious freedom.**Lesson 2: Religious Diversity and Multiculturalism****Objective:**Explore religious diversity and how it enriches a multicultural society.**Content:*** Major world religions and their basic characteristics.
* Respect for religious diversity in multicultural societies.
* Difference between religion, culture, and spirituality.

**Activities:**1. **Interactive Map:** Display a world map to discuss the presence of different religions in various parts of the world.
2. **Discussion Panel:** Invite students to share their beliefs (voluntarily) or cultural aspects related to religion.
3. **Workshop:** Create a comparative table of common values across religions, such as compassion, honesty, and solidarity.

**Homework:**Write a reflection on how religious diversity contributes to peaceful coexistence.**Lesson 3: Religious Freedom and Prejudice****Objective:**Identify challenges, prejudices, and discriminations that threaten religious freedom.**Content:*** Examples of religious intolerance in the world and their impacts.
* Common prejudices about minority religions.
* Strategies to combat prejudice and promote tolerance.

**Activities:**1. **Case Study:** Present a real or fictional situation of religious intolerance and discuss in groups how to handle it.
2. **Role-playing Activity:** Students simulate situations of respectful dialogue between people with different beliefs.
3. **Collective Reflection:** Identify daily actions that help combat prejudice.

**Homework:**Create a poster or digital message that promotes religious tolerance.**Lesson 4: Practicing Religious Freedom in Everyday Life****Objective:**Empower students to apply respect and appreciation for religious freedom in their lives.**Content:*** Peaceful coexistence and building bridges between different beliefs.
* The importance of interfaith dialogue.
* Individual role in promoting religious freedom.

**Activities:**1. **Inspiring Stories:** Share videos or stories of individuals or groups working for interfaith dialogue.
2. **Creative Activity:** Create a "Guide to Good Religious Coexistence" as a group.
3. **Commitment:** Each student writes down a concrete action they will take to promote religious respect in their community.

**Homework:**Participate in an interfaith event, reading, or practice, and report on the experience. |

|  |
| --- |
| *What are other follow up (or homework) activities that can be included?** Promote an Ecumenical Meeting.
* Interview with Religious Leaders.
* Development of a Religious Inclusion Project.
* Study Visit to Religious Temples: Sanctuary, Mosque, Synagogue, Hindu and Buddhist Temple.
 |

|  |
| --- |
| *What methodology / activities are used for assessment?** Formative Assessment
* Research Projects
* Oral Presentations
 |

|  |
| --- |
| Other thoughts about this lesson plan:* Inclusion of Diverse Religious Perspectives.
* Promotion of Critical Thinking.
* Development of Social Skills.
* Attention to Prejudice and Intolerance.
* Continuous and Flexible Assessment.

These considerations can help make the lesson plan more effective, inclusive, and relevant for students in a multicultural school. |