### Grade 6 English Language Arts Week of November 16 – November 20

#### Unit 2 Reading Project

Consider again the question posed at the beginning of this unit:

#### What has shaped your personal and cultural identity?

For your reading project for this unit, choose ONE of the following choices:

Choice 1: Artifact Box (Real or Virtual)

Choice 2: Oral Storytelling

**Choice 3: Letter** 

Read through the following descriptions to help you make your decision.

## Choice #1: Artifact Box (Real or Virtual)

#### Create an artifact box that reflects your personal and/or cultural identity.

Create an artifact box (real or virtual using images in a slide show, brochure, or document) that contains at least five objects (at least 1 per person). Each object must:

- be relevant to your personal or cultural identity
- be representative of something of importance.

Each object must be accompanied by a written explanation (on index cards, a mini-scrapbook, or if on a computer document, a title and caption) clearly explaining why it is an appropriate choice.

Ideas for how to frame text:

*This* \_\_\_\_\_\_ *represents* \_\_\_\_\_\_. *It is important because* \_\_\_\_\_\_. *My personal/cultural identity is evident in this choice because* \_\_\_\_\_\_. *There are several reasons it is meaningful:* \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

The objects may be packaged in a container or could be a digital presentation (ie. power point, word, prezi, other).

#### Artifact Box Criteria:

- at least five objects that clearly reflect your personal or cultural identity
- written explanations clearly justify the choice
- presentation is well organized and proofread

# Choice #2: Oral Storytelling

Around the globe, storytelling has always been an integral part of every society. For centuries, stories have been shared by elders, families and friends. From ancient times to today, the oral tradition of passing on information through story and song continues.

Stories are told to help younger generations carry on traditions, to share knowledge about the world, and to learn how to be a positive and contributing member of a community.



Sharing the Stories of Our Ancestors: <u>https://youtu.be/Z4UIy49qQ6U</u>

Find out about a special story or object from your family or culture that has been passed down. How would you tell this story or tell about this object to your children's children?

Plan your oral story-telling. Start by introducing the story or object. Where is it from? Then, add details. Be sure to include why it has special meaning to you and your family.

Practice telling the story while working on the following skills:

- An appropriate volume for the audience to hear.
- Clear enunciation.
- Expression.
- Face/body gestures (if video).
- If dialogue is used, characters are believable to listener. Storyteller's natural voice is differentiated from character voices.

Then, ask your home facilitator to help you to record yourself telling this story. Save it as an audio recording (mp3) or video recording (mp4).

### **Oral Storytelling Criteria:**

- story clearly reflects your personal or cultural identity
- presentation is well organized and planned, with a clear introduction and progression
- speaking: volume, enunciation, expression, gestures, and believable dialogue (if used)

# Choice #3: Letter

Write a letter or email to a new penpal from across the world describing your personal and cultural identity.

**Organization**: Your letter or email should include a greeting, 2-3 paragraphs, and a closing.

**Content**: Responds to one or more topics/ideas from each category:

1. Relationships and cultural contexts:

- my family and community
- different groups that I belong to
- how my identity is made up of many interconnected aspects (such as life experiences, family history, heritage, peer group, gender identity)
- family history (if you know it) country or countries of origin, languages spoken, traditional foods and celebrations

2. Personal values and choices:

- how some important aspects of your life have influenced my values
- how your values shaped a choice

3. Personal strengths and abilities:

- your attributes, characteristics, and skills
- a challenge you faced where you showed a strength or ability

**Conventions**: Use proper punctuation and sentence structure.

#### Friendly Letter Criteria

Organization: Your letter or email should include a greeting, 2-3 paragraphs and a closing.

**Ideas**: Explain briefly why you are writing, include two specific examples (direct quote or description) from his video. Share something about yourself.

**Conventions**: Use proper punctuation and sentences, as well as letter format.

Writing a Friendly Letter

A friendly letter sounds like you are talking to a friend sharing news about your life. It is polite to ask questions about your friend's life too!



Friendly Letter Anchor Chart via: classroomcaboodle.com