Underground Railroad Lesson Plan: Minty

Subject: Language Arts & Social Studies
Topic: The life of a child in slavery, Minty
Grade Level: Kindergarten
Lesson Length: 1 hour

Objectives:
✓ The students will listen and recall details from the book, Minty.
✓ The students will compare/contrast Minty’s life in the book to their own life by completing a class Venn Diagram.
✓ The students will apply the information from the Venn Diagram to a picture depicting an aspect from Minty’s life and an aspect from their own life.

Materials: Minty by Alan Schroeder, Venn Diagram pocket chart, sentence strips, marker, student work page, crayons, and pencils.

Procedure:
1. The students will listen to a read aloud of the book Minty.
2. Throughout the read aloud and class discussion, students will make predictions about the story and gain an understanding of the life of a slave child.
3. After hearing the story, the students will recall details of how Minty lived her life (i.e., chores, clothing, toys, house, what she had to learn). Record on the Venn Diagram using sentence strips.
4. The students will compare these recalled details to the same aspects in their life (i.e., chores, clothing, toys, house, what she had to learn, etc.). Record on the Venn Diagram using sentence strips.

5. The students will discover the similarities and differences between themselves and Minty in the Venn Diagram

6. Individually, the students will complete a student page. The students will draw one aspect of Minty’s life and one aspect of their life. The students will dictate to the teacher what their pictures say.

Assessment:
✓ Students will participate in the class discussion by listening attentively and sharing ideas.
✓ Students will complete the student page by drawing one accurate aspect of Minty’s life and one accurate aspect of their life. The teacher will evaluate accuracy by talking with the student about their pictures as they dictate.

Internet Resources for Teachers:
Freedom Center:  www.undergroundrailroad.org
PBS Teacher Resources:  www.pbs.org/teachersource/