Storytelling Lesson Plan: Who’s a Hoosier?  

Length: 45 minutes/day for 2 days

Age or Grade Intended: 4th Grade

Academic Standard:  
4.7.3 Identify how language usage (sayings and expressions) reflects regions and cultures.

Performance Objectives:  
While working in groups of four, students will create a story about who is a Hoosier, with 100% participation.

Advanced Preparation by Teacher:  
Research and print off a few stories about the possible meanings of the word Hoosier from the website listed below.

Procedure:  
Introduction:  
The teacher will ask, “Does anyone know what a person from Indiana is called?” “Does anyone know why that name exists?”

Step by Step Procedure:  
1. Students will break into groups to discuss stories they know about the word Hoosier.  
2. In groups of 4 students will brainstorm and use their imagination to create a story about the word Hoosier.  
3. A scribe will write the story.  
4. Together, each group will share their story with the class.

Closure:  
Following the group presentations the teacher will tell a few stories about possible meanings of the word Hoosier.

Reference: http://www.indiana.edu/~alumni/fun/hoosier.html

Adaptations/Enrichments:  
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Students who do not communicate verbally can draw a picture or act out their part of the story.

Enrichments:  
Students who want to include artwork with their story may create illustrations.

Bloom’s Questions:  
Knowledge: What is a person from Indiana called?  
Comprehension: Compare your story (a more modern one) to a historical story about who is a Hoosier.  
Application: What other ways could you present your story?  
Analysis: What is unique about your story?
**Evaluation:** Based on what you know about a Hoosier, explain why there are differences in the historical background of what a Hoosier is.

**Gardner’s Multiple Intelligence:**
- **Linguistic intelligence:** Writing and presentation (storytelling)
- **Interpersonal intelligence:** Working in-groups to create a story, telling the story in front of the entire class
- **Intrapersonal intelligence:** Acting-out/presenting each part of the play, using leadership and teamwork skills to work together to create a story

**Self Reflection:**
- What could I do to make this activity more worthwhile for the students?
- What improvements can I make for next year?