

LESSON PLAN

Step 1

WHY OBJECTS?

Objectives

- Identify general reasons for collecting objects.
- Compile a personal collection inventory.
- Define personal reasons for collecting.

Materials

- Copies of the Take-Home Page, page 7 or 8.
- Pens or pencils.

Subjects

- Language arts, social studies

Procedure

1. Ask your students if they have ever collected anything, such as feathers, coins, dolls, or baseball cards (*you may want to use other examples that better reflect your students' interests*). Select two or three student volunteers and ask them to explain their reasons for collecting. Answers will vary, but students will probably conclude that they collect objects because they see them as beautiful, valuable, unique, useful, or old. (*Some students may find it difficult to explain the appeal of the objects they collect. Be sure to emphasize that collecting is often a personal matter that depends on individual interests.*)

2. Give each student a copy of the Take-Home Page. Tell your students that they will now survey their own collections of personal objects. Emphasize that a collection can be any series of objects that students enjoy, without regard to monetary value. (*If time allows, encourage students to bring in a sampling of their collections to share with the class.*)

3. After your students have completed the Take-Home Page, begin a class discussion to determine the many reasons they have for collecting objects. Ask your students to tell what kinds of objects they collect and why those objects appeal to them.

If students have difficulty expressing why they have chosen to collect these specific objects, refer back to the Introduction for a discussion of the reasons different objects have great value (historical significance, beauty, usefulness). You may find that students will provide other reasons for collecting as well. (*If students have brought in their collections, now would be a good time to show them to the rest of the class.*)

4. Continue the class discussion by asking your students to describe how they care for their objects. (*Some students may find it difficult to explain how they protect their collections. Stress that caring for objects can be as simple as keeping them out of the rain, the sun, or their younger brothers' and sisters' hands.*)

5. Conclude by summarizing the value that different objects have. Suggest that, just as many things in museums were once ordinary objects, some of the students' belongings may one day take on historic importance.

TAKE-HOME PAGE

My Collection

To the teacher

- Duplicate this page for students.
- Use with Lesson Plan Step 1.

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Directions: Look around your room at home or your desk or locker at school for objects that you have collected. When you have found them, list and/or sketch and describe them here. Then answer these questions about your collection.

Why are these objects important to me?

How do I take care of them?

What do I know about my collection? (Where did the objects come from?

What are they made of? How old are they?)

How could I find out more about the things in my collection?

Do I ever show my collection to my family and friends?

TRABAJO PARA HACER EN FAMILIA Mi Colección

Al maestro(a)

- Copie esta página para los alumnos.
- Úsela con el primer paso del plan de la lección.

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Instrucciones: Mirar alrededor de tu cuarto o escritorio o tu “locker” en la escuela y encuentra objetos que coleccionas. Después de encontrarlos, haz una lista de ellos, dibújalos y descríbelos. Entonces, contesta estas preguntas sobre tu colección.

¿Por qué son importantes para mí estos objetos?

¿Cómo los cuido?

¿Qué sé acerca de mi colección? (¿De dónde son estos objetos? ¿De qué están hechos? ¿Cuántos años tienen?)

¿Cómo podría aprender más sobre las cosas en mi colección?

¿Alguna vez le he enseñado mi colección a mis amigos o a mi familia?
