COMICS WORKSHOP

AGES: ALL

COMICS4CULTURE

ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

Workshop Overview

This 60-minute workshop is an exciting way to provide young students with the idea that there is more than one story or perspective when it comes to heroes and comics as well as empower them to be confident in sharing their own stories through comics. This program also introduces students to comic book culture and helps build their reading comprehension skills. Although designed for a one hour session. This workshop can be adapted to fit your needs.

This workshop can be done with students of all ages, however, it is best designed for elementary and middle school students. The only difference between age groups is the comics that are suggested for the students to read. The suggestions are sorted by age.

Our main goals throughout this workshop are to empower students to share their own stories, art, identities, and cultures through comics as well as provide a space for them to discuss issues they face within their own communities through the medium of comics. Also, especially for young students, this workshop strives to help them consider their friendships and role models in life. By doing this, students will grow their reading comprehensions skills, creativity, story telling skills, and problem-solving skills.

About Comics 4 Culture

Comics 4 Culture was founded in Andover, Massachusetts in 2022. The primary motivation and support for Comics 4 Culture stems from the founder's positive personal interactions with forms of media including comics, graphic novels, music, gaming, and arts in general.

Comics are a potent way to tell stories. The fusion of fun writing with the often intricate and complex art creates a powerful fusion that no other medium can replicate. During our recent history, much of the media surrounding comics and superheroes has not been particularly diverse as most of them reflect white men and more recently, women too. This has proven to be detrimental to certain communities as the children growing up in these communities have a hard time relating to a hero that has little cultural connection to who they identify as.

Part of our mission at Comics 4 Culture is to diversify the narritive when it comes to comics, and hearing and seeing the stories of all different students will greatly support this mission. At the end of the workshop, please ask your students if they are willing to share their comics on the Comics 4 Culture website. You can view students' comics on the "Discover" page of the Comics 4 Culture website, comics4culture.org.

COMICS4CULTURE

LESSON PLAN

By the end of this workshop students will be:

- Introduced to the joy and fun of reading comics
- Understand the power comics have to tell impactful stories
- empowered to tell their own stories, whether personal or cultural, through comics
- Aware of different perspectives from their peers through the sharing of everyone's own stories in a

Materials:

- Writing utensils, preferably colored pencils/pens, crayons, or markers
- Comics books, either found at the library or from the suggested comics list provided
- Comic strip templates are attached to this lesson plan or found on the printouts page on comics-4culture.org

Workshop Timeline:

0-10 Minutes: Introduce the lesson, as well as discuss the objectives with the students. Allow students to pick a comic to read from the list provided.

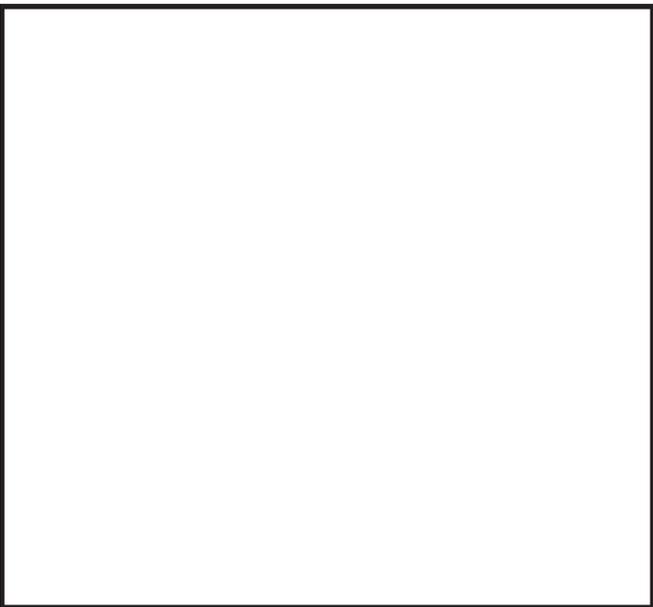10-25 Minutes: Allow the students to read through the comics.

25-45 Minutes: Hand out comic strip templates provided below and allow students to doodle or sketch their own comic. Encourage them to tell a story from their childhood or culture.

45-60 Minutes: Engage the students in a classroom discussion. Ask each student to share which comic they chose and what it was about. Then, if the student is comfortable, give them the space to share their own comic. At the end of the workshop, please ask if the students are willing to share their comics on the Comics 4 Culture website. If so, please take photos of those that agreed and submit them on the "Contact" page of the Comics 4 Culture website.
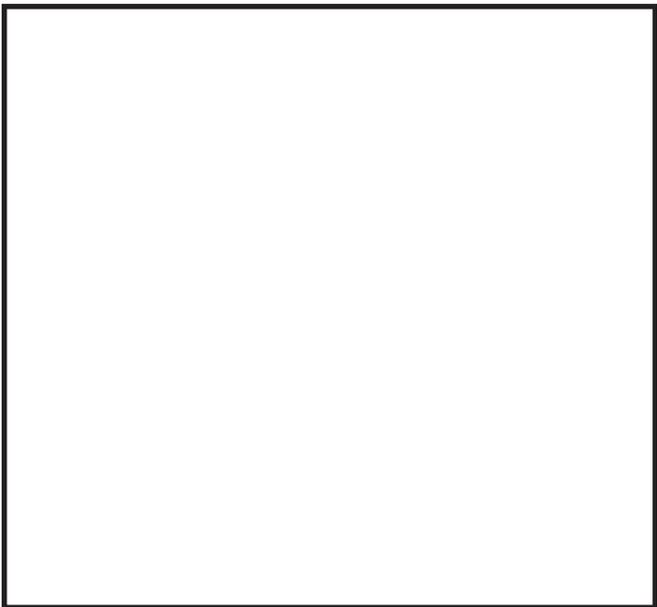
Questions to Consider:

- Who are some people you look up to in life and why? This could be superheros, teachers, parents, or a sibling.
- What are some stories you grew up with?
- What is your comic about? Does it reflect any problems that can be solved in your community or a story from your childhood?

COMICS4CULTURE

COMICS4CULTURE