Bulletin Board Ideas for the 12 Gardens of Stewardship

Garden of History
Grade 3

In tending to our Garden of History, we look at the past to help us understand the present and build a better future. Discovering what the 'Heroes of History' have done can be fun and shows us we have much to thank them for!

Project

Celebrate the influence of historical figures. Focus can be given to a particular time and place or to a particular 'hero', depending on the teacher's preference. The example below shows 'heroes' of the Unites States colonial period, a focus suggested in the Archdiocese of Seattle Catholic Schools History curriculum guideline for grade three.

- Title bulletin board; 'Heroes of History!'
- Choose various historical figures of the colonial United States – such as John and Abigail Adams, Ben Franklin, George Washington, Pocahontas (early colony period) or other historical figures of your choice. Print or copy pictures of the heroes for display. (Google and Wikipedia are useful sources.)
- Select library books, online printouts or other resources that tell the stories of these historical figures and share these with the students – either reading the stories aloud to the class or having students read to each other in assigned groups.
- Either as individuals or as groups, have the students write 'Thank You' notes to their chosen (or assigned) 'Hero' for what they did to influence our history. Some examples: thank Pocahontas for helping to save the earliest colonists from starvation; thank Benjamin Franklin for establishing our first public library; thank Abigail Adams for advocating education for women and slaves; thank George Washington for 'stepping down' after he served as President even though people wanted him to stay in power as if he were a king, thus enabling the next president to be elected and establishing our Democracy; thank John Adams for leading and persevering in the difficult fight to declare our independence as a nation and then helping to negotiate peace with England afterward. Etc.
- Post students' 'Thank You' notes on the board.