For a Girl Becoming



By: Joy Harjo

Essential Question for Consideration:

• What are your cultural traditions around childbirth and child raising?

Overview:

In this lesson, participants will compare and contrast childbirth and views on child raising from around the world.

Materials:

- Pen or pencil
- Paper
- "9 Ways Childbirth Looks Different For Women Around the World"- Article * (See below lesson plan)
- "How Cultures Around the World Think About Child Raising"- Article* (See below lesson plan)
- Childbirth Reflection Worksheet * (See below lesson plan)
- Child Raising Reflection Worksheet * (See below lesson plan)

^{*}If there is no access to a printer, view the resources online and complete the tasks orally or written on a separate piece of paper.

Activity:

1.) On a piece of paper, have the participant reflect on the questions below:

What happens when a baby is born in your culture? What do people do before, during, after the birth?
What people are most involved in childbirth or child raising? Why?
Who takes on the primary responsibility for raising the child? Why?
What is the role of parents to the child after the child becomes an adult?

- 2.) Encourage the participant to share their responses.
- 3.) Tell the participant they will be reading a story about childbirth, child raising, and milestone life moments called *For A Girl Becoming* by Joy Harjo.
- 4.) As the participant reads or listens to the story, have them identify ways in which childbirth/child raising is the same or different from their own culture.
- 5.) Read/Listen to For A Girl Becoming by Joy Harjo.
- 6.) Encourage the participant to share similarities and differences with their own cultural views around childbirth and child raising.
- 7.) Give the participant the article "9 Ways Childbirth Looks Different For Women Around the World" and the Childbirth Reflection Worksheet.
- 8.) Have the participant read the article and **complete only Questions 1-3 on the worksheet**. Review for understanding.
- 9.) Give the participant the article "<u>How Cultures Around the World Think About Child Raising</u>" and the Child Raising Reflection Worksheet. Review for understanding.
- 10.) Again, only have the participant **complete Questions 1-3 on the worksheet**.
- 11.) Encourage the participant to share their responses on what surprised them, similarities, and differences for both the childbirth and child raising worksheets.
- 12.) Instruct the participant to return to each worksheet and reflect on Question 4.
- 13.) Have the participant share their responses to Question 4. Encourage them to think about their initial writing response from the beginning of this activity as they answer the questions below.

How does this information either support or change your cultural views on childbirth and child raising?

Is there anything that we can learn or adapt from other cultures? If so, what?

What can others learn from your views on child birth and child raising?

Childbirth Around the World- Reflection Worksheet

Directions: Read the article "9 Ways Childbirth Looks Different For Women Around the World" and complete the questions below. Additional paper may be needed to fully answer the questions below.

1. What information surprised you or interested you most? Why?	
2. What are similarities between childbirth in different countries around the world? (Cite 2 pieces of evidence from the article.)	3. What are differences between childbirth in different countries around the world? (Cite 2 pieces of evidence from the article.)
4. How does this information either support or change your views on childbirth? Is there anything that we can learn or adapt from others? If so what? If not, what can others learn from your views on childbirth?	

Child Raising Around the World- Reflection Worksheet

Directions: Read the article "How Cultures Around the World Think About Child Raising" and complete the questions below. Additional paper may be needed to fully answer the questions.

1. What information surprised you or interested you most? Why?

2. What are similarities between child raising in different countries around the world? (Cite 2 pieces of evidence from the article.)	3. What are the differences between child raising in different countries around the world? (Cite 2 pieces of evidence from the article.)
4. How does this information either support or change your cultural views on child raising? Is there anything that we can learn or adapt from others? If so, what? If not, what can others learn from your views on child raising?	