



Lesson Plan: Change for Angola

Grade Level: K-5

Summary: RISE International was started after Andrew Cole, who was born and raised in Angola, returned with his father in 1997, for what he thought would be a one-time visit. However, he witnessed the impact of a 27-year civil war (which ended in 2002) on children and wanted to help. The conflict left its cities, buildings and infrastructure decimated; its people displaced and suffering and most without access to clean water, healthcare and education. He envisioned rebuilding a school in Chilonda, where he had grown up. Joined by his wife, Lynn, and a group of passionate people, they founded what is now RISE International. They believed education would be the driving force behind a strong economy and key to breaking cycles of poverty and despair. RISE developed a simple plan: Build primary schools in rural Angola to educate children, empower communities and contribute to the rebuilding of the country. RISE currently focuses its efforts in the Bie and Benguela Provinces and has built schools in Luanda, Huila, Huambo and Cuando Cubango Provinces.

Lesson Summary: In this lesson, students will explore the connection between their lives and the life of a student, Ana in Angola. Students will have the opportunity to compare and contrast their daily routines and school days to Ana as they discuss chores, subjects studied, language spoken and distance/mode of getting to and from school. Older children could further study the civil war in Angola that led to the current state of the country and present their findings to the class through a presentation that allows them to share information, thoughts and feelings.

Objectives:

- Students will use critical thinking skills to draw conclusions.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of what life is like for a girl from Angola, and will compare and contrast her life with their own.
- Students will work together to make a presentation showing their understanding with their classmates.

Subjects:

Language Arts, Social Studies, Art, Speech (oral presentation skills)

U.S. Common Core Standards

Reading:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.2-5.3
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.2-5.4

Writing:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K-5.7
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K-5.8

Speaking & Listening:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K-5.2
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K-5.3
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K-5.6

Language:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.K-5.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.K-5.5
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.1-5.5
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.1-5.6

Essential Questions:

1. What do you want to do when you grow up? What are your hopes and dreams?
2. What are your favorite things to do with friends? With family?
3. Do you have chores? What are they?
4. What is culture?
5. Are there a variety of cultures living in your city? In the United States? What are they?
6. Can people living in a different culture, very far away, have the same hopes and dreams as you?

Resources & Materials:

- Poster board, markers, magazines, scissors, glue, post-it notes, etc.
- Ana from Angola book (or pdf) - download from RISE website
- Videos - download from RISE website
- Research tools found online
- 2017 RISE Fact Sheet - download from RISE website
- Map of Angola - (find best link)
- Images and logos to use for presentation or digital activities
- Portuguese words to learn

Lesson:

1. Introduce your students to Angola using riseinternational.org, the resources listed above, and any other resources you have at your disposal.
2. Review the Essential Questions with your students. Spend plenty of time discussing and allowing time for questions so that they can approach the story of Ana with a working definition of culture.
3. Read Ana from Angola together. There is a pdf copy on our website should you wish to distribute copies to individual students or to small groups to read together.
4. Revisit the Essential Questions and see if students have any additional thoughts or questions.
5. Divide students into small groups and explain that they will work together to brainstorm similarities and differences between their lives and that of Ana from Angola. Using a piece of paper (or a larger board perhaps for younger children), label the left side, "THE SAME" and the right side, "DIFFERENT". Allow students time to discuss and complete the chart encouraging them to focus on the themes in the story.
6. Discuss the students' findings in either a large group or within small groups. Did learning about Ana change anything about the way the students viewed their own lives or education?
7. Have students present their learnings to the class through the use of art or (drawing, collage, chart, poem, song, etc.) to demonstrate what they have learned.

Extension Activities:

1. Most people in the United States have access to clean water to drink, to bathe, to cook with, etc. In Angola, some people have access to clean water where wells have been drilled. But many others do not. Discuss the importance of clean water, and the various ways having clean water in your home goes unnoticed. Conduct a clean vs. dirty water experiment (see instructions here: <https://www.peacecorps.gov/educators/resources/clear-water-not-clean-water/>)
2. Ana walks 30 minutes one way to school, which is common in Angola. Talk to the students about their trip to school and the comparison to Ana's trip to school. Consider taking a 30 minute walk to show your students the distance many kids in Angola walk to get to school (one way!).
3. The book alludes to difficult things happening in Angola that have prevented children from going to school. For older students, discuss aspects of the civil war in Angola and how this type of unrest adds instability to infrastructure such as clean water, healthcare and education.
4. Commit as a class to start a coin drive for children in Angola to go to school.

Digital Activities:

1. Make materials for the coin drive including fundraising letters/emails, designing signage to promote coin drive, create ads for any school-specific promotional venues (websites, school newsletters, posters to hang at school)
2. Create a video highlighting a typical student's day in their school that connects to the themes shown in the Ana from Angola book.
3. Create a video teaching English and Portuguese words from the book or from the word list.