Be-A-River
OKCPS-Native-American-Student-Services

Takeaway Activity

Supplies Needed:
• Sand
• Small Pebbles
• Rocks (Medium to small, bigger than the pebbles)
• Water
• Food Coloring (Optional)
• Mason Jars (Wide Mouth, Small)
• Permanent Marker

1. Prepare Materials and make sure everything is set up in a production line. Start with big rocks and work your way down to the sand.

2. After placing the big rocks, pebbles, and sand in the mason jar, fill with water till there's about 1/2-inch away from the top. Secure with lid.

3. Notice how you can see that each layer exist calmly in the water. You can turn the jar and it's stable and easy to see. Now SHAKE IT UP (not too hard!)

4. Now each layer has mixed with one another and it becomes murky and harders to see. This represents how a student's life can change.

Use the permanent marker to label each one so nobody is confused as to who the jar's owner is. You can add "Like A River" to help remind you of this message.
Be-A-River
Takeaway Activity

Symbolic-Meaning-of-Materials-

Big-Rocks- These are events or circumstances that make life extremely difficult. Things like a teen pregnancy, parent using drugs, born with a birth defect/mental illness. These barriers are likely to affect them throughout their lives.

Pebbles- These are problems or events that may last a few years or months. These might look like a romantic relationship, a part-time job, a course, or even having parents divorce. These may be present but not present over the entire life.

Sand- These issues or problems are usually day to day, chores, homework, typical daily routine. This also can cover extracurricular activities. Usually time management comes into importance here.

Lesson-Ideas: Have students write out their big rocks, pebbles, and sand to let them see what those events are, or you could have students work together to make a class version. You can use this and apply it to many different lessons.