

Session – Arthur Ashe

**Activity 1 – Arthur Ashe: A Hero**

Read the article in Worksheet 1. It was written by a 4<sup>th</sup> grader in New Jersey. Write down the facts you learned about Arthur Ashe from reading the article.

Facts about Arthur Ashe

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

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**Activity 2 – Arthur Ashe Quotes**

Read the quotes by Arthur Ashe. Which quote is your favorite? Write it in the space provided below. Then re-write the quote using your own words. Explain why you choose that particular quote.

Favorite Arthur Ashe Quote:

Re-write the quote using your own words:

What made you choose this quote?

What have you learned about Arthur Ashe that you didn't know before reading these quotes?

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### **Activity 3 – AIDS Awareness**

Read the AIDS awareness article. Then answer the questions below.

#### AIDS Didn't Care who Arthur Ashe Was

On Dec. 13, 1979, and June 21, 1983, a married, middle-aged, very physically active black Virginia man has heart surgery. In the June operation, he receives a tainted blood transfusion.

In 1988, complaining of numbness in his right arm, the man goes to the hospital and learns he has toxoplasmosis, a fungal infection in the brain signifying a severely compromised immune system. The nature of the infection is not publicly disclosed.

On this date four years later, the man holds a press conference to announce something he'd wanted to keep private. He says he's speaking only because a newspaper has told him it will push and possibly publish the story without his consent.

The man is Arthur Ashe, and the private issue is that he has AIDS.

1. What do you think the author's purpose was for writing this article?

2. How did Arthur Ashe contract the HIV/AIDS virus?

3. Despite the taboo nature of this disease, Arthur Ashe used his celebrity to increase AIDS awareness. How do you think this impacted people who were found positive for the AIDS virus during that time?

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**Activity 4 – Arthur Ashe Photos**

Study the Arthur Ashe photos. What have you learned about Arthur Ashe by looking at these photos? Can you introduce him to someone who has never heard of him? Use the information you have gained to write a short essay about Arthur Ashe. Write a rough draft on the back. Then copy your final draft on the front of this form.