

Session 2
“Arthur Ashe” – 1

Goals

- To assist students in learning about the life and accomplishments of the founder of the Virginia Heroes program, Arthur Ashe.

Materials

Worksheet 1
Activity 1
Activity 2

Procedure

Greet the students. Wait until the students are seated and quieted. Briefly describe the goals of today’s lesson. Pass out the information sheets on Arthur Ashe. Go over the information with the students. Choose an activity and follow the directions.

Script

Today we are going to learn about Arthur Ashe. Arthur Ashe is the founder of the Virginia Heroes program. Without his vision for a mentorship program for young people we would not be here today visiting with you.

Does anyone know who Arthur Ashe is? Are you aware of any of his accomplishments? By the time you leave today you will know a great deal about Arthur Ashe. It is our hope that the life of this Richmond hero inspires you to follow your dreams.

Session 2
“Arthur Ashe” – 2

Activity 1 instructions: Introducing Arthur Ashe – A Virginia Hero

Break the class into 4 groups. Each group should choose a recorder, spokesperson, timekeeper and leader. Each group will take 10 minutes to research a different aspect of Arthur Ashe’s life using the biography prepared for this session. Each group will make a list of those facts. There are four aspects we are going to look at in particular. Those four aspects are: sports accomplishments, political and social activism, philanthropist activities and Arthur Ashe’s list of firsts. Then each group will introduce Arthur Ashe based on their facts to the rest of the class.

Activity 2 instructions: How Well Do You Know Arthur Ashe?

Test your knowledge of Arthur Ashe. Complete this form by writing True or False beside each statement. Answers are as follows:

1. False (Arthur Ashe was born in Richmond), 2. False (He first appeared in the December 12, 1960 *Sports Illustrated*), 3. True, 4. True, 5. True, 6. True, 7. True, 8. False (Camera was born in New York), 9. True, 10. True, 11. True

Activity 3 instructions: Philanthropist Project

Arthur Ashe is the founder of the mentorship program Virginia Heroes. Imagine that you had the opportunity to be the founder of your own program for teenagers. What kind of program would it be? Consider the needs of your community. What are some programs you wish were in place for you? What is the name of your program? Write about the services your program would provide. When and where would your program meet?

Activity 4 instructions: Quote For Discussion

Read the quote. Ask the students what they think the author was trying to say.

What do you think the author was trying to say? Do you agree with Mr. Ashe? What does it mean to have potential? Discuss some roadblocks that prevent young people from reaching their potential?

*“My potential is more than can be expressed
within the bounds of my race or ethnic identity.”*

*Arthur Ashe (1943 – 1993)
Tennis Player, Political/Social Activist*

Activity 5 instructions: Life Skill

Make eye contact. When someone is speaking, keep your eyes on him or her at all times. If someone makes a comment turn and face that person.