7th Grade ELA: PBS.org: How Unconscious Race Bias Affects Millennials

Standards	English Language Arts (video & article) RI.7.1, RI.7.2, RI.7.3, RI.7.6, RI.7.7
Objectives	Define bias, unconscious bias, and conscious bias Define and identify examples of racial inequity Become aware of societal unconscious biases Become aware of their own unconscious biases
Essential Questions/ Materials	 Essential Questions How does bias impact the way individuals live their lives? How can an individual become aware of their unconscious bias? How does racial inequity hinder our society? Materials Implicit Bias: Concepts Unwrapped video How Unconscious Race Bias Affects Millennials article & video Defining Racism PDF Short Google slide presentation or other form of presentation (at teacher discretion) with terms to know
Introductory Message	Good morning/afternoon, friends! For the next few days we will be going over terms and information that will encourage you to develop opinions and contribute to group and class discussions. Remember, this is a judgment free zone; you are encouraged to be a part of the discussion but be sure you are not doing so at the expense of others. All of our opinions are valid, and I encourage you to keep an open mind. Feel free to ask questions and for clarification throughout. Any questions before we begin?

Day 1 Activities

Students will answer the following "warm up questions" individually. They will then discuss their answers in groups, then as a class (via PBS article)

- How would you define racism?
- How might scientists measure racism?
- Who is negatively affected by racism in the U.S.?

Students will learn about the following terms:

racial inequity: when individuals are treated differently based on their race (use the link to the file below for more specific definitions and examples to discuss with students)

Defining Racism

Bias: an unfair prejudice in favor of or against one thing, person, or group compared with another.

conscious bias (explicit bias): deliberate and intended bias towards others

unconscious bias (implicit bias): biases that an individual does not even realize they have (i.e. stereotypes)

Students will view video entitled, "Implicit Bias: Concepts Unwrapped" as a class, and answer the following questions:

- What are your initial thoughts about this video?
- Choose one of the interviewees and summarize their perspective. How do you think implicit bias affects them?
- According to the video, how can we become more aware of our implicit bias?

Day 2 Activities

Students will answer the following review questions from yesterday:

- What is the difference between conscious (explicit) and unconscious (implicit) bias?
- How can we become more aware of our own unconscious biases?

Teacher and students will review definitions from yesterday and <u>alternate definitions</u> to help provide clarity and understanding. Class discussions should be had as prompted by the teacher.

Example prompt (via PBS.org):

How do these definitions differ from what we discussed yesterday?

Students will then watch the PBS.org video in its entirety and answer the following questions in groups then discuss as a class (via PBS.org):

- Do you think someone can accurately estimate their implicit bias? Why or why not?
- How does implicit bias affect your daily life? Can you think of any recent events, either in the news or your own experiences, where implicit bias could have played a role?
- What is the danger of not understanding your own biases?

NOTE: A summary of the video is detailed below the video should

	students need the extra resource.
Assessment	Day 1: How can we, as a society, attempt to break down the barriers of unconscious (implicit) bias?
	Day 2: What are the benefits of learning about other individuals' races, religions, cultures, and ethnicities? How can this help prevent any kind of bias?