your job

MINI LESSON

GET IN CHARACTER

Students will read about puppeteer Megan Piphus Peace. Then groups will work together to come up with a puppet show that will teach younger students an important lesson.

Common Core State Standards

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.RI.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.1
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.4
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.3

Materials

Class set of "Get in Character"; access to Kahoot! quiz; access to *Sesame Street* video

INTRODUCTION

Start the lesson with the Kahoot! quiz about puppets at *ti.me/puppetKahoot*. Ask students to raise a hand if they ever watched *Sesame Street.* Have volunteers explain to the class what the show was like. Ask students to share something they remember learning from the show. Show the students the article "Get in Character," and explain that they'll be learning about a woman named Megan Piphus Peace, who became a puppeteer for the TV show *Sesame Street.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Describe Megan Piphus Peace's path to joining the *Sesame Street* cast.
- What character traits does Piphus Peace try to include in her performances? Why might these be important for her audience?
- How did Piphus Peace show perseverance in her life?

CLOSING

Review the character values that Piphus Peace includes in her performances. Can students think of any episodes of *Sesame Street* that include lessons about perseverance, honesty, or respect? Have students talk to a partner about the following question: Do you agree with Piphus Peace that you can teach kids "anything with a puppet"? Why or why not? Show students an example of the puppet Gabrielle teaching kids an important lesson with the video at *ti.me/SesameVideo*. Discuss the ways in which this video made being an upstander against racism more kid-friendly. Group students and tell them they'll be coming up with a puppet-show script that teaches kids an important lesson. The script can include a song, if groups choose. Groups may choose their own lesson to teach, or they can use one of the values mentioned in the article. After a script is written, give students time to create their puppet characters. Invite younger classes to be the audience for the puppet-show performances.