

00;00;15;12 - 00;00;41;29

Unknown

Greetings, everyone. I'm Dr. Bill Williams. I'm the professional development director for Engage in Creative Minds. We're a nonprofit out of Charleston, South Carolina, where we focus on bringing arts education to our teachers and students all across South Carolina. And today, you're going to learn about movement through culture. We have one of our wonderful teaching artists here with us, Shalini Jamison, also known as Miss Nina.

00;00;41;47 - 00;01;07;09

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And she is going to tell you all about Gullah Geechee culture and the Gullah people. You're going to learn about the art history and dance of the Gullah Geechee culture right here in South Carolina. So stay tuned as you hear from Ms.. Nina, greetings on HLN and have a good day. I'm Miss Nina. All right. Tell them, before we get into our lesson, I want you to repeat at the Miss Nina.

00;01;07;36 - 00;01;30;13

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I am capable, I'm strong. If I believe in myself, I can turn my dreams. It's all planned and my plan into my reality. And I'm so happy to be here to see a little bit about you, with you, about galaxy culture in the way that I'm going to do it in our first segment is through a teaching mechanism called Whole Brain Teaching.

00;01;30;46 - 00;01;54;17

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Now, whole brand teaching is a I call it a fun mechanism of teaching in a style in which I would actually give you guys information using my words of communication and then you guys will actually follow me using your words and also gestures as well. All right. So let's start in. Let's go ahead and get started. All right.

00;01;54;17 - 00;02;43;05

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So what is Gullah culture? Repeat at the Miss Nina. Did you know that Gaelic culture is a unique culture birthed from the descendants of West Africa who were enslaved in the sea islands of the land, thick ocean, the term Gullah Geechee, the tribe from West Africa country call Angola. The term Geechee derived from the West African country call Gizzi.

00;02;45;29 - 00;03;10;42

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All right, so what I want you to do now is I want you to actually get with the partner, and I want you to actually demonstrate what your partner, what you just learn. You guys are going to actually take one minute to teach each other what you just learned, starting with did

you know? All right. So let me give you guys a minute to do so and we want to bring it back.

00;03;10;42 – 00;03;34;25

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All right, teacher. So what I want you to do now is I want you to actually pick a group of Bravehearts who's actually interested in demonstrating what they just taught their group members. All right. And we want to see if they can get it. All right. So I'm sure you guys wonder, like Gullah Geechee people, where do these people come from?

00;03;35;20 – 00;04;16;13

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All right. So I want you to repeat at them as Nina. Oh, did you know that garlic eating people were brought in the early 1500s from West Africa all the way to the Americas, particularly the ports of Charleston, South Carolina. All right. So I want you to repeat after me what I just did using your words, using your body language, and just basically teach each other what you just learn.

00;04;16;27 – 00;04;45;28

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But before you go into that, I want to actually tell you that the countries that they were brought from are called Guinea, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Gambia, Angola and Madagascar, to name a few. And they were sold for gold, salt, silk, frankincense and myrrh. So I want you to go ahead and get what's important is get with your group and teach each other what you just learned, starting with did you know?

00;04;45;28 – 00;05;32;24

Unknown

All right, so let me give you guys a minute to do so. All right. All right. So I got another fact that I would like to share with you guys. Repeat at the most, Nina, did you know that after being enslaved, the enslaved Africans were forbidden to speak their language? They were not allowed to communicate with each other, and several times they were separated from their families who they would never see again.

00;05;32;24 – 00;05;47;22

Unknown

All right. So what I want you to do now is I want you to go ahead and get in your groups, teens, and I want you guys to go ahead and teach each other, which that's information that I just thought. You all right? Thought. And what did you know? Let me give you guys a minute to do so.

00;05;48;14 – 00;06;09;42

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And that your friend is teachers. I'm asking that you go ahead and pick a group of Bravehearts who's interested in demonstrating for the

class what they just thought each other. All right, guys, I hope you are enjoying your time, learning a little bit about Gullah Geechee culture. We're going to dove deep into a few more facts about Gullah culture.

00;06;09;56 – 00;06;42;09

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So repeat after me. Did you know that over 80% of the people were enslaved from West Africa, were stolen from their homes, and they were actually brought to the ports of Charleston, South Carolina. And after entering the New World, they were signed up with pig lords and chained and shackled. All right. So what I want you to do is go ahead and repeat after me.

00;06;42;29 – 00;07;08;07

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I want you to go ahead and demonstrate what I just thought. You thought and what did you know? What's your group's teacher's going to give you, your student about one minute to go ahead and share the information, teach each other what they just learned. And we're going to have a group of Bravehearts or individuals who want to come up and demonstrate what they just learned to the class.

00;07;08;07 – 00;07;35;50

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So, guys, I want to just share with you that between 1525 and 1866 and the entire history of the slave trade to the new world, 12.5 million Africans were shipped to the New World. 10.7 million survived the dreaded Middle Passage, disembarking in North America, the Caribbean and South America. All right. So I'm sure some of you guys are wondering Middle Passage was that middle passes?

00;07;35;50 – 00;08;11;58

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I'd never heard of that before. All right. Well, I'm actually tell you guys exactly what the Middle Passage was using, whole brain teaching. All right. So repeat after me if all of my gestures. Guess what, guys? The Middle Passage is the speed of the Atlantic slave trade in which millions of enslaved Africans were forcibly transported on the Americas as part of the triangular slave trade, some enslaved Africans fought back and rebelled against the devastating conditions of the passage.

00;08;12;28 – 00;08;38;31

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Some even jumped the board with the will of rather dying free, then living enslaved. All right, so what I want you to do now is go ahead and get with you girls. Tell us what you just learn using whole brain, teaching your words, your communication and we'll come back in a minute with whoever, whatever Braveheart, who's ever willing to

demonstrate what they just lay.

00;08;38;42 - 00;09;22;52

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All right, so go ahead, class. Teach. So I'm sure some of you guys asked me, like, man, they brought over millions of slaves from West Africa. Why? Why would they do something like that? Why did this happen? Okay, well, I'm gonna actually tell you guys why this took place, so I want you to repeat at me. Then slave Africans were brought to America from West Africa because their specialty skills in cultivating things like rice, tobacco, indigo and cotton.

00;09;22;52 - 00;09;50;18

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All right. So go ahead and get with your groups and teach what you just learn. And as you're teaching, I want you to just know that they were there actually grew these crops known as cash crops. Okay. The indigo was used. It used for dyeing fabrics and materials. The tobacco was used for smoking or chewing. Cotton was used for several different reasons, like creating clothes and things of that nature.

00;09;50;34 - 00;10;13;39

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And of course, you already know the rice was used for eating in. The rice was actually one of the main cash crops that was cultivated here in the Galaxy Islands by the garlic people. For over 400 years, the enslaved Africans dealt with the hardship, pain and trauma of slavery working every day from sunup to sundown for no pay at all and very little food.

00;10;14;15 - 00;10;40;41

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If they did not comply to the master or plantation owners orders, they would be punished dreadfully if they tried to escape and got caught, they would be being branded and sometimes even killed. They were often placed against each other for competition. Tall against short, light against dark. Young against all. Small against big father and son, mother against daughter, wife against husband.

00;10;41;20 - 00;11;10;19

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This was done to create a separation within the slave community and to bring upon jealousy and hatred towards each other in a psychological warfare. And this was actually brought upon the slave plantation owners by a guy named Willie Lynch and his Willie Lynch. Later, despite the hardships and turmoil of slavery, the enslaved Africans were still able to practice their cultures and way of life secretly through different customs and traditions.

00;11;10;50 - 00;11;45;54

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Some of these customs were, quote, making trading sweetgrass baskets, fishing, crabbing, shrimping, singing, dancing, braiding, playing rhythms, what instruments they would create, storytelling, dyeing with indigo, cooking and worship. And they created God spiritually. The galactic people were very, very spiritual people, and this was actually done during the isolation periods. These traditions will often practice during the summertime when the plantation owners would vacate for some time.

00;11;45;54 - 00;12;21;09

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In the northern states, due to the climate and the overwhelming insect problems, several plantation owners would leave their overseers to look over their plantations while they were gone. Braids were also used as mats for escaping and for smuggling grains of rice seeds and even gold into the Americas and Caribbeans. And I'm not sure if you guys knew this, but before the Africans were brought over to America, a lot of the women were actually high seas and gold and grains of rice and the here in their braids.

00;12;21;09 - 00;12;48;20

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And they actually brought it on a trip from Africa to America. And these trips can often take about a year for the destination from Africa to America. All right. So right now, what you want to do is you're going to witness some of the Gullah traditions and customs here. Here is an image of Gullah people cooking a meal, preparing for their family or the plantation.

00;12;49;57 - 00;13;27;16

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This is an image of indigo, which is actually used to dye things like jeans, fabrics. It was actually honestly used for dyeing as the flag as well. Gullah people serving God is in this image at the far right to the bottom. On Sundays, the plantation owners would often take their slaves to church where they learn songs of their oppressors and manipulated them in to code songs for escaping from the plantations to freedom.

00;13;27;54 - 00;13;56;31

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They often sang these songs as they were working in the fields. For example, they were singing songs like Swing Low, Sweet Chariot, a cold song, communing, communicating that they are about to run an escape to freedom, which was to the northern states or Canada. I mean, to me coming on to me, oh, all right. So I don't know.

00;13;56;46 - 00;14;17;02

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What about the language or the culture or the language of people? Well, guess what? Gullah language is actually a mixture of English, Creole and several other African languages. All right. So you got to remember, when these people were brought over from West Africa to America, they were stripped from their customs, their traditions, their language. They were forbidden to speak.

00;14;17;02 – 00;14;42;19

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These things because unfortunately, the plantation owners felt like they could get up one of them or they can use it as a way to rebel or to escape. These languages were used to communicate among the enslaved community and was often not understood by the plantation owners. This language was used to communicate on the plantation among the enslaved people secretly.

00;14;43;42 – 00;15;08;04

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Oftentimes when people speak Malagasy culture now these all years ago, it was sometimes will oftentimes be looked upon in a in a negative way or a not so smart way. But it was actually a very ingenious, ingenious way to communicate, because they were speaking in code. They were speaking their language, which is my language.

00;15;10;23 – 00;15;36;33

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All right. So Hanna chillin, I'm actually see a few words Gullah words, and I want to see if you guys can catch them on repeat at the me bena benga is someone who has been here before. Okay, come here, come here. Represent someone who's just came here. Okay. So if you want to use those two terms in a sentence, you might say, yeah, Liberia.

00;15;36;34 – 00;15;59;00

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I know you talk about girl, you just come here, okay? I've been yeah, I've been a girl like you native. All right? I've been sitting in this class. You just get to another term as Hanna, which references we hear him or they as I first greeted you guys, I say greetings and I tell her I have a do today.

00;15;59;01 – 00;16;22;44

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And when I stated that to you guys, when I read it, you guys, I was just basically saying, Hello, children, how are you doing today? Another Gullah term, which is kind of funny. One is, see, Craig means you talking too much, Gow said to the man up over to eat attracted too much is what my grandmother would say sometimes.

00;16;24;05 – 00;16;53;27

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All right. A few other terms are beat out. What's his gut level? What though? Another one, this new foot was is Gaelic for beef. It's another one that's Beehive, which is Gullah for Beehive before. Which is Gullah for before, for the Gulf War, before they behind Gulf War. Behind wary gulf, a very, very well done, colorful, very well.

00;16;53;27 - 00;17;23;02

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Then then there's also words like bit, which is Gullah for best. I'm up here trying to do my bit, teaching you guys a little bit about Gullah language and culture. And then the term is bigger, which is Gullah for bigger. Another one has been, which is Gulf War been. Another one is GAO what's it's colorful girl. Another term as woman what's this colorful woman?

00;17;23;58 - 00;17;39;39

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Another one is Hula. What's this Gullah for you? Another term is Terra. What's this? Gala for, sister? Another term is any which is colorful. Is that so? You don't learn about Gullah culture any.