

Activity Guide for Grades PreK – K

This suggested guide can be modified as needed. It is provided to give context and assistance in using and facilitating the Heritage Month Kit materials.

Theme

Courage & Resilience

Introduction to Students:

"May is Asian American & Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Today, we will learn about Asian American leaders."

Display provided map

"This is where we are, North America, and here is Asia (point on map). Asia is HUGE! The world has 8 billion people, and more than half of them are from Asia! The people there have many different religions, culture, skin color and ways of life. Do you know of any countries in Asia?"

Call on 2 or 3 students

"Asian Americans are people in America (point to the US) whose **heritage** is from Asia. That means that they are American, but they, their parents or ancestors came from Asia. We all have a **heritage**. Unless we are Indigenous Americans, either we, our parents, grandparents, or ancestors came from somewhere else. What do you know about your **heritage**? What are some traditions in your family?"

Call on 2 or 3 students

"People weren't always nice to Asian Americans, so they needed **courage** and **resilience**."

Do you know what **courage** and **resilience** mean? **Courage** is being brave even when it's hard to. **Resilience** means to say 'Yes, I can!' When others tell you can't. Talk to your classmate next to you about a time you showed **courage** and **resilience**."

Students share with their neighbor.

"Let's read some books about **courage** and **resilience**."

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Read Aloud Suggestions:

Yes We Will

- After reading the book, ask students what they dream of being when they grow up and what gifts they want to share with the world.
- Turn to page with Mamie Tape

"This is Mamie Tape! Mamie lived in California and wanted to go to school, but the school told her that she wasn't welcome because she was Asian American. Mamie was a **courageous** and **resilient** girl who said, 'Yes, I can!' She is one of many girls who were told they can't go to school because of their culture or skin color."

Show pictures of Ruby Bridges, Sylvia Mendez & Alice Piper on "Teaching History from Diverse Perspectives" handout in the Educator Resource folder.

"Like Mamie, these girls named Ruby, Sylvia and Alice were also **courageous** and fought to go to school."

Each kit contains one of the following books:

A Boy Named Isamu:

Take inspiration from Isamu Noguchi's art and learn more about his distinctive style with these fun activities to make kids feel creative.

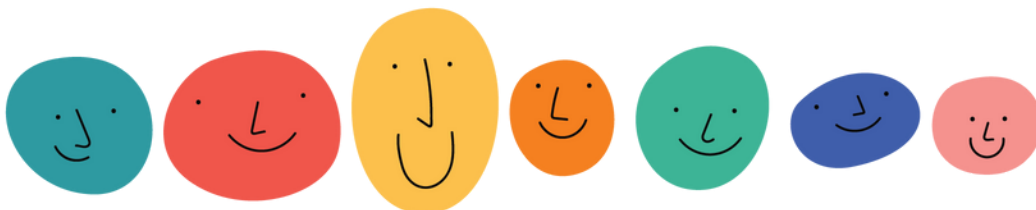
- After reading, ask students what they liked about the book or how they can relate to Isamu. Then explain to students that he is a Japanese American born 118 years ago. His father came from Japan (point on provided map), and he became a famous Asian American artist.
- Students look at something through their legs, or tilt their heads to the side. How does it look different when they do this?

Thao:

- Students write their names and decorate it with stickers and crayons.
- Students talk to the student next to them and share what they like about their name or what makes it special.

The Many Colors of Harpreet Singh:

- While reading the book ask students to make facial expressions reflecting Harpreet's emotions.
- After reading the book, have students share what they would have done if they were Harpreet's classmate. What kind of friend will they be?



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Coloring Page:

Guide the students in a classroom coloring activity (large coloring page provided).
Illustrated by Jalysa Leva of PBS Kids' "Jelly, Ben & Pogo"!

Craft:

"How **courageous** and **resilient** the people we read about were! We all have times when we say, 'Yes, we can!' even when it's hard. Today, let's make a **courage** ribbon to remember that you, too, can be **courageous** and **resilient** like the people we read today!"

Lead students in making courage ribbon.



 **Craft
Instructions**

"For the Family" Take Home Sheet:

Students can take home a sheet and share what they learned with their family

Educator Resource Folder:

Provided in this kit is a folder for educators.

**Enter
to Win**

Take a photo of your class using the kit and [#heritagemonthkit](#) and automatically enter to win an illustrator visit from Jalysa Leva, creator of PBS Kids Jelly, Ben & Pogo!
Email or go to www.aaved.org for additional information.

