Lesson Plan

Copyright and The Lion King

Learning Objectives and Outcomes

After completing this lesson, students will be able to:

- Analyze fair use and copyright in context to creating works
- Understand how US copyright law works
- Describe controversies surrounding The Lion King and plagiarism
- Analyze The Walt Disney Corporation's role in shaping modern US copyright law

Implementation

Learning Context

This lesson can be taught in a traditional in-classroom style lecture or as an asynchronous virtual class/ "flipped classroom" style lecture.

Activities

a. Preinformation Discussion

Have students discuss what they already know about copyright in groups or as a class discussion. What do the students know well? What do they not know? What do they assume they know but is wrong?

b. Copyright Core Lesson

Using the Electronic Frontier Foundation's copyright curriculum, have your students explore different facets of copyright law depending on what is most applicable to your class. Topics range from the public domain to the history of copyright law. Pick 2-3 appropriate topics for your class to explore.

Resource link: https://www.teachingcopyright.org/curriculum/hs.html

c. The Lion King and Plagiarism

Have students watch video essay on *The Lion King* and its controversial relationship with *Kimba the White Lion*.

Resource link: https://youtu.be/Z-rumv1QsKk

d. Class Discussion

Group/ class discussion on response to video essay.

e. Mickey Mouse Protection Act

Students will explore The Walt Disney Company's role in shaping modern US copyright law. The Wikipedia resource is a good aggregate for information on the topic. Additional resources can replace it if so desired.

Resource: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Copyright_Term_Extension_Act

f. Check for Understanding

Assess students' understanding and ability to achieve the learning targets for the lesson.

e. Independent Practice/ Implementation

Have students demonstrate an understanding of copyright through creations of their own.

Materials & Resources

No worksheet is provided as the copyright core of the lesson can be customized to fit the specific needs of the given class. Have students take notes on key concepts.