**Grade:** 4th

**Subject:** English Language Arts (ELA)

**Lesson Title:** Understanding Social Justice Through Storytelling

**Learning Objectives:**

* Students will be able to define social justice and its core principles.
* Students will be able to identify examples of social justice issues in different texts.
* Students will be able to use narrative elements to create a story about social justice.

**Essential Questions:**

* What is social justice?
* Why is it important to stand up for what is right?
* How can stories help us understand social justice issues?

**Content Standards:**

* CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.2: Determine the central message of a text and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.
* CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, including details, descriptive language, action words, thoughts, and feelings.
* CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.4.1: Engage effectively in collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in small groups, and whole class) demonstrating active listening skills and contributing clear and concise answers.

**Learner Relevance:**

Social justice issues often connect directly to students' lives, even at a young age. This lesson allows them to explore concepts relevant to their experiences with fairness, equity, and standing up for others. By connecting these concepts to storytelling, students can engage with social justice in a creative and meaningful way.

**Differentiation:**

* **Scaffolding:** Provide graphic organizers or sentence starters to support students in defining social justice and writing their narratives.
* **Enrichment:** Offer students the opportunity to research a specific social justice issue they are interested in and present their findings to the class.
* **Choice:** Allow students to choose the format of their stories, such as writing a traditional narrative, creating a comic strip, or writing a song.

**Formative Assessment:**

* Observe student participation in class discussions about social justice and their understanding of the concept.
* Collect and review students' definitions of social justice.
* Provide feedback on students' draft narratives, focusing on the use of narrative elements and the incorporation of social justice themes.

**Sources:**

<https://charlotteteachers.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Erin-Miller.pdf>