

GRADES 5 TO 8 – SAMPLE ACTIVITY OF LESSON PLAN

on Truth and Reconciliation: What is it about?

ACTIVITY 1 — RAISING AWARENESS*

A few ideas

- a) Ask some of your students to read facts on residential schools and testimonials on what former students endured there, or view part of a video (for example, see Shannen's Dream in the References and Resources section). Discuss these facts and events and what your students know about them.
- b) In your classroom, hang pictures of individuals who experienced residential schools, or present a slideshow that illustrates the days of residential schools and of life in Indigenous villages at that time. Ask your students to write down how they feel as they look at the photos or watch the slideshow.
- c) Lead a brainstorming session on the following topic:

« Why do we talk about TRUTH and RECONCILIATION in the context of residential schools? »

Write students' responses on the blackboard and highlight the key elements they contain.
- d) Give your students a fill-in-the-blank text of a song, a piece of poetry or a short recorded story. Have them listen to the material several times and then insert the missing words. Hold a discussion on those missing words and their meaning (for examples of the material, consult the References and Resources section).
- e) Prepare a BINGO on the facts surrounding truth and reconciliation. Write short statements for the game, such as "We are a First Nations people" (see the example in the References and Resources section).

*It is important to note that the activities themselves are part of larger lesson plans that are in the final stages of approval (they are being piloted by some teachers across the country) and we are hopeful that aside from very minor tweaks, these completed lesson plans will be available on the *Teacher Resources'* section of [Imagineaction](#) as of March 1st.