
Introductory Activity: to the Canadian Women's Lives Resource

This activity is a universal/flexible activity that can be used as a starting off point for all courses at all levels.

Title	Introductory Activity to the Canadian Women's Lives Resource
Type	All grades
Suggested Subjects / Courses	History, English, Philosophy, Gender Studies, Family Studies, Science and Sociology

**Description
of activity**

It is important to start the activity without giving away any information or any direction as to where the activity/discussion/assignment is headed.

Ask students about amazing, incredible, accomplished, FAMOUS Canadians. What names come to mind?

Write the names paper or onto the Smartboard – make the list quite long and make sure the entire class has contributed at least a name or two.

When the list is done, ask the students if they notice something about the names on the list. If they're not seeing the gender-gap, highlight the names of all the MALES on the list. Do they see any difference or patterns now?

Guiding discussion questions:

- Are there really not many incredible Canadian women with amazing accomplishments, or do we just not know their names?
- Why might we not know their names?
- Have men/women, boys/girls had the same opportunities to achieve greatness?
- Whose voice and story have been centred? Privileged? Celebrated?
- What message might this be sending to men and women?
- What message might this be sending to young girls/boys/ males/females?
- What message might this send to employers?
- What message might this send to policy/law makers?
- What are the implications for society?
- Could this impact how young boys and girls view their own futures?
- How does this impact how boys and girls see themselves now or how they see themselves as grown-ups?
- What could or should be done about this?

Allow time for the discussion to unfold.

Exit Ticket: 3-2-1:

What are three things I have learned?

Two things that surprised me?

One action I want to take?

As an extension assignment; students could write about any of the above.