Lesson: What Are My Rights…and My Responsibilities?

Lesson Activity Steps:

1. HOOK: Partner students and give them the opportunity to visit a website: www.teacher.scholastic.com/activities/immigration to read immigration stories from present day children and from a woman who immigrated at a difficult time in history (use worksheet to guide gathering of information)
2. Students are grouped and given a package of rights and responsibilities, some of which are real and others not those granted to citizens.
3. Students are to organize the cards into two columns with the correct rights and responsibilities while leaving those not granted to citizens on the side.
4. Teacher projects answer key and begins class discussion around correct answers.
5. Teacher explains authentic assessment overview and shares rubric for project.
6. Teacher shows example PSAs and asks students to rate their effectiveness then discusses with the class.
7. Students evaluate examples viewed and share through a class discussion.
8. Students are grouped to begin projects.

Special Needs of students are considered in this lesson: Student groups will be selected with teacher assistance. This will insure that groups are a cross-section of the class and not based on friendships. The teacher should have a way to separate students based on their ‘expertise’ such as, actors, writers, artists, etc. Once this type of grouping has taken place, the teacher can make project groups that are balanced with different types of learners.

Extension Ideas: Perform/play student-created announcements for another class of students without prior instruction on citizenship and have students facilitate a question/answer session to check for understanding based on their work alone.