15 Tips for creating your SOCIAL JUSTICE LESSON PLAN

01 Do Your Research
Become knowledgeable about the topic; explore a variety of reputable sources

02 Define Objectives
Set clear learning goals for yourself and your group. Be open to a lack of closure

03 Culturally + Socially Relevant
Make sure your topic and content is relevant to the community with whom you’re working

04 Make Learning Accessible
Identity count! Consider the different needs, identities, and learning styles in the room

05 Create a Vibe
Carefully curate your space: use images, quotes, fabric, scents, etc. to set the mood. Engage all the senses

06 Materials + Prep
Make sure all analog and digital materials are prepared ahead of time. Do a tech run if possible

07 Key Terms & Vocabulary
Be sure to allow space for learning and discussing new words and terms. Word walls are good for this

08 Community Builder
Open the activity with a community builder that leads into the content and creates a safe space

09 Knowledge in the Room
Not all experts are teachers, and not all teachers are experts. Make space for the knowledge that’s already present in the room

10 Discussion, Exploration & Inquiry
Provide space for investigating through discussion, critical thought, imagining, questioning, and safe discourse

11 Skill Building
Provide the tools and model the skills necessary to engage in the activity. Leave time for the acquisition and exploration of new material

12 Art Making
Offer opportunities to make art that reflects the content, and theme. Reference artists that reflect the identities, styles, and flavor of your audience or theme

13 Share Back + Reflection
How is student work shared? Are there opportunities to discuss the art and how it relates to the content? Individual, pair, small, and large group reflection work

14 Next Steps
This is not art just for art’s sake—what will we do with our art? How can it make an impact? How do we intend to change the world (or at least yourself)?

15 Closing
Create rituals for resetting the space, the community, and the individual. Allow time for grounding and processing things learned. Follow up if necessary

Developed by Austin Greene