



# PEOPLE OF PITTSBURG

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Inspired by  
Humans of  
New York,  
created by  
Brandon  
Stanton

# WHAT WILL MY STUDENTS LEARN?

## ELA Standards:

Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection

Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences

Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced

Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach

Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products

Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions

## Soft Skills/Character Development:

Approach and have a conversation with people you don't know well

Use empathy to connect with people and respond to their stories

Learn that everyone has a story worth telling

Take pride in your community and the people in it

Be kind

# BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

- Show students examples and videos about HONY
- Analyze examples of profile stories
- Teach about developing interview questions for a profile story
- Partner up to practice interviewing and focusing on a topic

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## HOW TO BEGIN

Students should write interview questions (prepare more than you need)

Make sure they know how to use recording app or recording device

Ask to record **FIRST**

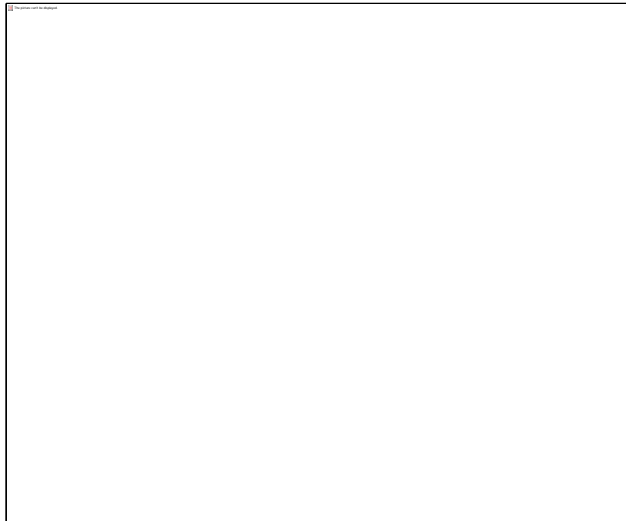
Questions should be first impersonal, then gradually getting more and more personal





## DURING THE INTERVIEW:

- Notice details about your interviewee
- Build a rapport first
- Make the conversation organic
- Be sensitive to and interested in their stories
- Modify the questions as needed
- Be grateful and considerate of their time
- Take a picture



A man with glasses and a red checkered shirt stands in a hallway. He is wearing a lanyard with an ID badge around his neck. The background shows a hallway with a sign that says "THE KING MAIL".

## Potential Problems:

- Very shy student
- Student does not have a good camera
- Student can't find a story to write about

A woman with curly blonde hair, wearing a red polo shirt with a "Pittsburg" logo, smiles. She is standing in a kitchen area with dark cabinets and a countertop.

## Possible Solutions:

- Pick an interviewee that is an acquaintance
- Have a camera that the students can borrow
- Listen to recorded interview and offer suggestions