



## Grade 2: “People Who Make a Difference” Pre-Visit Lesson Plan

**Introduction:** This pre-visit lesson can be accomplished in one or two lessons. It is designed to take place in the classroom prior to the students’ visit to the Midway. This activity addresses a component of the California History-Social Science standards and also provides appropriate background to build upon during the lessons conducted on the Midway. By completing this lesson before their visit, your students will be better prepared to benefit from the lessons we have planned for their day aboard the Midway.

### **Materials:**

- Selected Mini-Book Biographies (7 of them) from 15 Easy-to-Read Biography Mini – Books: Famous Americans published by Scholastic (Susan B. Anthony, Roberto Clemente, Helen Keller, Sally Ride, Betsy Ross, Harriet Tubman, and the Wright Brothers). *A copy of these 7 biographies will be mailed to you with your pre-visit information.*
- Instructions on how to cut, fold, and assemble the Mini-Book.
- About Our Hero worksheets
- White board and markers (or flip chart with markers)
- Crayons or markers
- Scissors
- Staplers

**Vocabulary:** You may want to review these terms which many 2<sup>nd</sup> graders would be familiar with. Their definitions will probably sound something like what is listed below:

- **hero** - someone who does something great. A hero doesn’t have to be physically strong or risk his life to save someone. He or she does something to help someone out, maybe something he didn’t have to do or something that others would be afraid to do.
- **courage** - being brave.
- **risk** - take a chance . . . when you take a risk, something good might come of it, but something bad might come of it, too.
- **sacrifice** - to give up something you want for a higher cause, a greater good, or because it’s the “right” thing to do.
- **dedication** - not giving up; to keep your goal in mind; to face hardship because you know you are working toward something big and important.

## **Instructions on How to Cut and Fold the Famous Americans Mini-Books:**

1. Cut the page in half along the solid line.
2. Place page 3 behind the title page.
3. Fold the pages in half along the dotted line.
4. Check to be sure that the pages are in the proper order and then staple them together along the book's spine.

## **Recommended Method for Teaching the Activity:**

1. Assign each table or group students one hero to read about and report on to the class.
2. Give a mini-book to each student, according to their table. For example, all students at Table #1 get a mini-book about Susan B. Anthony.
3. Depending on your students, they can do the cutting and folding to form the books, or you could have this taken care of before the students get the books.
4. Students assemble the books according to the instructions. An adult may help them staple the pages in place, making sure the pages are in the correct order.
5. Students at each table read together their mini-books. After they have read through the mini-book, they complete the sentence: This person made a difference by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Worksheets for them to write on are called [About Our Hero worksheets](#) and can also be downloaded from this pre-visit section.
6. Depending on time availability, you can allow students to color their mini-books, or just to color the front cover.
7. **IMPORTANT:** As you wrap up the activity, be sure to make the point that these people on the mini-book pages are remembered as heroes because they demonstrated courage and made sacrifices. The heroes your students will study on the USS Midway may not be as famous as these heroes they have studied today, but they have the same qualities: courage, strength of character, sacrifice and the desire to help others. They, too, are "People Who Make a Difference".