

Identity



Your identity is who or what you are at your core. “Identity” is word for our person, dignity, pride, or honor that implicitly links us to our social community. It’s the niche we play in our world. According to George Bernard Shaw, “Life isn’t about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself.” During this time in your life, you are coming to terms with and creating your new identity as an adult. For the first time, you no longer see your selves as sons or daughters, brothers or sisters, or students, but as individuals with a separate identity who has a role in the larger community. During this time in your life, childhood ends and a new identity emerges.

In history, we will study the identity of our nation by looking closely at how the United States began. In writing, we will write argumentative papers that help us convey our feeling and thoughts about topics. In reading, we will explore how setting, actions, and events create who people are. Just like creating your identity is tricky, sticky, and involves a lot of deep thought, so will this cycle of study.

During our studies, we will explore how and why identity is important. When we take the time to really reflect an build on ourselves, our community, our country, our communication, and our relationships, we end up with something amazing and beautiful!

Guiding Questions:

- What identity are you creating for yourself right now?
- How has your identity influenced your perspective and learning?
- What is the identity of some of our characters in reading? How did they create that identity for themselves? Why did they do that? Can we relate to them in any way?
- What identity do we take on in writing? How do we present ourselves? How does our identity show in our written communication?
- What is the identity of the US? How did our country get that identity?

What You Will Learn:

- What is the US? How did we get here?
- Who are we as writers? What sides do we usually take? How do we write well?
- Why do people join gangs? Why do they fight? Why do some people meet tragic ends?

What You Will Do:

Project work:

- How do I create my identity? How can I be successful during this journey?
- Support a community of adolescence

Classwork:

- Take a stance in writing!
- Discuss and engage in conversations about Pony Boy, Johnny, Socials, and Greasers. Don't know who they are? Come to class to find out!
- The word history comes from the Greek word *historía*, which means "to learn or know by inquiry." Inquire to learn about how our country created its identity.

Homework:

- Enjoy one of my favorite readings- The Outsiders by S. E. Hinton
- Prepare to discuss your deep thoughts!
- Explore the identity of others through language acquisition by completing 40 min of Rosetta a week.