Group_activity

Activity 1: Role-Play Re-enactment

Objective:
To understand the events of 1 Samuel 4 by acting out the key scenes.

Instructions:
1. Divide students into small groups.
2. Assign roles to each group: the Israelites, the Philistines, Eli, Eli’s sons (Hophni and Phinehas), and the messenger.
3. Each group reads a portion of 1 Samuel 4 and discusses their character's role in the story.
4. Groups rehearse a short skit highlighting their characters' actions and feelings.

Roles:
- Narrator: Describes the scene and sets the stage.
- Israelites: Discuss their struggles and how the Ark of the Covenant is brought to battle.
- Philistines: Describe their reaction and strategy upon hearing about the Ark.
- Eli: Expresses his concerns and reaction to battle news.
- Messenger: Delivers the battle outcome to Eli and the people.

Discussion Prompts:
- How did each group feel about the Ark being brought to the battlefield?
- How did Eli react upon hearing the news of the battle?
- Discuss why things didn't turn out as the Israelites expected.

Active Participation:
Ensure that each student has a speaking role or responsibility, such as assisting with props or directing their group's skit.

Activity 2: Story Map Creation

Objective:
To visualize and outline the sequence of events in 1 Samuel 4.

Instructions:
1. Provide each group with large paper and markers.
2. Instruct groups to create a story map that includes the main events, key characters, and outcomes.
3. Encourage creativity by having students draw, use symbols, or include dialogue bubbles.

Roles:
- Illustrator: Draws key scenes or symbols.
- Recorder: Writes down the main events and dialogue.
- Presenter: Shares the group’s story map with the entire class.
- Timekeeper: Ensures the activity progresses in a timely manner.

Discussion Prompts:

- What was the main problem the Israelites faced in the story?
- How did the Philistines respond to the presence of the Ark?
- What important message does this story teach us today?

Active Participation:
Every student contributes by either drawing, writing, or assisting with ideas during the planning session.

Activity 3: Debate Circle - The Use of the Ark

Objective:
To critically think about the Israelites' decision to bring the Ark into battle.

Instructions:
1. Arrange students in a circle and divide them into 'For' and 'Against' teams.
2. The 'For' team argues why bringing the Ark was a good decision.
3. The 'Against' team argues why it was not a wise move.
4. Allow teams a few minutes to discuss their points before starting the debate.

Roles:
- Speaker: Voices the team’s main arguments.
- Note Taker: Jots down opposing team’s points for refutation.
- Moderator: Keeps the debate respectful and on track.
- Closing Argument: Summarizes the team’s viewpoints at the end.

Discussion Prompts:
- What was the Israelites' intention in using the Ark?
- How might this situation be relevant to actions we take based on assumptions?
- Are there better alternatives the Israelites could have considered?

Active Participation:
Encourage each student to contribute a point or counterpoint to ensure everyone is engaged in the debate.