

Materials that will support children throughout these lessons:

Journal (somewhere to record all of their thinking)

Folder (storing artifacts, articles, photographs, etc.)

Note: All resources for each session can be found in the corresponding resource folders

Session 7:

Intention: Draw connections between Letitia's story in history and present work happening today to preserve her legacy. Also, zoom out to reflect on the danger of a single story.

1). Reflect: Why can it be harmful when people learn only the white settler version of the Oregon Trail story? Harmful to whom? What is the problem with this? What is lost? Turn and talk with a partner

Do some sharing out whole group -- as ideas grow perhaps record them on chart paper finishing this sentence frame:

Learning about stories that have been intentionally excluded from history is important because _____.

Push children to reflect on the past but also the implications for the present. Even though Letitia lived long ago, why is it still important that today we are studying stories like hers? What are the implications for our own actions? Community? Ways we see the world? What important stories are being intentionally excluded today? What's our responsibility?

2). What advocacy work is currently happening around Letitia's story?

-Watch: OPB Documentary Oregon's Black Pioneers from 22:00-end

URL:

<https://www.opb.org/television/programs/oregonexperience/article/oregon-black-pioneers-documentary/>

-Read: School Renaming

-Novel: A Light in The Wilderness by Jane Kirkpatrick

-Letitia Carson Legacy Project is a collaborative effort to preserve Letitia's land

- URL: <https://letitiacarson.oregonstate.edu/>

-ORWW website - URL: <http://www.orww.org>

-Painting being donated to Letitia Carson Elementary School by James Lavadour

-Friends of Letitia Carson Facebook page

-Letitia Carson Elementary School in Corvallis, Oregon

3). Reflect: Quote from Zachary Stocks (Director of Oregon Black Pioneers):

"So much of Black history is accepting the fact that we will never have the robust primary sources that white centric history does. So, we have to rely on the sources that we can use instead (material culture, storytelling, art, etc.)."

How does knowing that there are many stories like Letitia's throughout history that we will never learn (because they have been intentionally and inadvertently excluded) impact the way we navigate the world today? What are the implications of this? What can we do?

How can we make sure the experiences of people from all races, cultures, genders, ethnicities, etc. are preserved for future generations to learn from?

-Invite children to reflect on shifts in their own lives, perspectives, what they notice, what they do when they encounter a story that seems single sided, etc.

4). Read the last 2-3 paragraphs of Pioneer Woman Confronts Discrimination by Bob Zybach

-In this excerpt, what do you hear Bob saying about why it's important that we learn more stories like Letitia's? And what can we DO now that we know?