

Sample of a lesson early on in the course:

Student construction of a definition of a philanthropist includes a street survey. As an anticipatory set, students view a You Tube clip where university students survey people on the street about the term philanthropy. While the clips are quite funny, they realize that none feel certain what a complete definition should include. They decide to find out. Students conduct a similar survey and break the data down word by word (nouns and verbs). After they group similar words or phrases, they tabulate the range, median average, and frequency. Student results find that the three words or phrases that occur with the most frequency are giving, money, and poor or less fortunate. They observe this as a limited definition and begin to search for other definitions. In the weeks to come, their lessons will include interviewing philanthropists and collecting newspaper and magazine articles about philanthropists. After analyzing their results, students begin to construct their own definition. Terms they include are giving of one's time, talent, and/or treasure in order to improve the quality of life for the community at-large. The guidelines for the survey are that they must gather at least a dozen entries, data from all three age categories, and no more than two from any one location. Phone surveys are allowed for relatives who live a distance away. Approval from parents to approach strangers is required but encouraged. Classes tabulate the data as a whole group activity and receive credit in their math classes for demonstrating an understanding and practical application for math terms such as range, median, average, and frequency. Below is the community survey form that students use.

Name of Person Interviewed	Age Range C: child T: teen A: adult	Place Where Survey was Conducted	Definition of a Philanthropist