Sort it Out: Sample Directions for Students

Big Idea: (An important conceptual understanding).

Investigative Question: (Sorting the images will help students answer this question.)

Directions:
1.Explore the images and topic: Look, label, sort:

Look at the images.

Label possible groupings for the images into two or more categories.

Sort the images (not all images need to be used).

* Repeat this routine as many times as you can.
* Reflect on your sorting:
- How did you decide which images went in each category?
- Is there an image that you are unsure of? What made you unsure?
- Can you think of another way to sort these images?

2.   Create and Exhibition that communicates an idea

 Arrange your images into an exhibition. Gather with a partner. **Do not tell your partner about your exhibition.**

Take turns with the partner, completing the following tasks:
Viewer
Describe what you see in the partner's sort.
Question state the questions you have when examining this sort.
Sorter will not answer these questions.
Guess the labels for the groups.
Sorter
Listen to the Viewer Describe, Question, Guess – **DO NOT RESPOND**
Explain the thinking behind the title and the groupings to the viewer.
Revise, if you were to revise the work then what might you do differently?

3. Connect these sorts to the **Big Idea (on the top of this page)** Use images from your sort as evidence to support your ideas.

For more information on an image, see the bibliographic record.

A Sample Variation of Sort it Out
Sort it Out: American Biography – studying people over time

Step 1: Look
Examine all of the images in this folder. Read the back to learn more about the image.

Step 2: Label
Think of **two or more** categories that could be used to sort the images into groups.
        For example:
        Black & White and Color,
        People, Places, & Things
        Advertisements, Letters, Pictures, Maps, & Other (images that don't fit the labels)
        Drawing, Photographs, Handwritten, & Typed

Step 3: Sort
Sort the images into groups that would fit under the labels you created.

Step 4: Repeat Steps 2 and 3 as many times as you can.
Record the different labels and the image number(s) for each sort:

_____

_____

_____

Step 5: Find portraits or images that symbolizes an individual who made a difference in their community. Place the pictures with an X in the corner in a row. Match the name of the person with their portrait or representative image. Put unused images in a separate pile.

Step 6: Create a timeline. Put the images with an X in order from when the person depicted in the image lived. Start with the earliest period and end with the latest period.

Time Periods: Colonial (1492 - 1763) ->**Revolutionary** (1763-1803)->**Antebellum (through Civil War)** (1803 - 1865)-> **Reconstruction to World War II** (1866 - 1941)-> **Post-War U.S. History** (1945 - Present)

Step 7: Add information. Match the other images with the portraits by placing an image that helps us know more about the person's life below the portrait. You will have two rows now.

Step 8: Make inferences. Think about the people and their work over time. Look for patterns. Look for ways the people and their work are both the same and different.
Answer the questions:
- What type of change did these people work to create in their community?
- What do they have in common?
- Why might we remember their actions today?
- What questions do you have about these people?