**Discrimination lesson plan**

**Reading for life**

School: Hilstad skole, Norway

Teacher: Siri Nepaas

**Age group:** 13-15

**Aims:**

• Explain the term: discrimination

• Identify negative and discriminatory behaviour

• Discover two different examples of discrimination; discrimination on the ground of race and discrimination against women

• Reflect on the situation today both in our own country and in USA, where the movie is from

**Materials:**

Whiteboard, projector/apple TV, iPad/ PC, the movie: Hidden figures

**Activity 1:**

Explain the word «discrimination». Find synonyms and related words.

Explain the phrase: « Don`t judge a book by its cover».

**Activity 2:**

Watch the movie «Hidden figures».

**Activity 3:**

Discuss different questions from the movie​:

(The questions are from the website: [www.techbridgegirls.org](http://www.techbridgegirls.org)​)

1. What parts of the movie do you remember most, and why?

2. The movie took place during a time in the United States when black and white people were segregated, and black people were treated unfairly.

a. How were Katherine, Mary, Dorothy, and their co-workers challenged by discrimination? How did they succeed anyway?

b. How did the white people in the movie react to segregation?

c. What practices in our current day remind you of the segregation in the movie? Have you been treated unfairly because of your race and/or gender? Have you seen someone else treated unfairly because of their race and/or gender? What did you do or say? Would you act differently in the future?

3. How has the experience of women and people of color working in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) changed since the 1960s? What kinds of jobs do you think were usually available to women then? Was it the same for white women and women of color?

4. Mary Jackson showed great perseverance as she tried to get the opportunity to earn her engineering degree. In court, she argued "someone has to be the first." Have you ever felt you were first to do something? Why is being first at something both exciting and scary? Why do you think Mary fought so hard to get her engineering degree?

5. Dorothy Va​ughan stood up for herself ​and for other women several times in the movie. When did you notice Dorothy being an example of what it means to be part of a sisterhood of women?

6. When did you notice other people standing up for Dorothy, Katherine, and Mary? Why was it important for them to have male allies (supporters) and white allies?

7. What was the role of friends and family members in supporting Katherine, Dorothy, and Mary? How did they support each other? Why is having a support system important?

8. What would you do if you were told you could not pursue a career or job because of how you look or who you are?

9. What can you, as a student do to help others, especially young people, break barriers as Katherine, Mary, and Dorothy did?