Unit Guide

Censored Songs after 9/11

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In Censored Songs after 9/11, fifth grade students will focus on three guiding questions: What is Free Speech? What is Free Speech? How can students relate to the events of 9/11? What makes some songs suggested to be banned after 9/11? Following the Delaware Music State Standards and the Civics Common Core Standards, students will be introduced to censored songs that were banned in 2001. Students will discuss why these two songs may have been banned because of the events of 9/11. Students will then form conclusions as to why "New York New York" performed by Frank Sinatra, "God Bless the U.S.A. by Lee Greenwood and "Dancin' in the Street" by Martha and the Vandellas were banned. The objectives for Censored Songs after 9/11 unit are that the learners will discuss the meaning of the First Amendment as it relates to Freedom of Speech, define censorship, summarize important ideas and events for the 9/11, recognize famous banned songs from 2001 and describe the functions of censored songs and the conditions under which these songs could be sung and performed.