

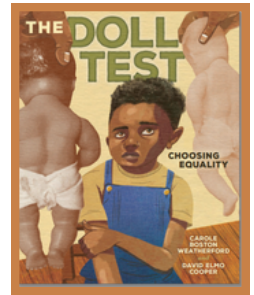
Teaching & Activity Guide

BEAUTIFUL YOU

Write or draw what you love about being you!

Lesson Plan

Introduce the powerful research of Dr. Kenneth Clark and Dr. Mamie Clark through the reading of *The Doll Test* written by Carole Boston Weatherford and illustrated by David Elmo Cooper.



Lesson Objectives:

1. Understand the psychological effects of segregation on Black children.
 - Students will explore how segregation influenced children's self-perception through the lens of the doll test.
2. Learn about the contributions of Dr. Kenneth Clark and Dr. Mamie Clark.
 - Students will recognize the role of these psychologists in conducting the doll test and how their work contributed to ending school segregation.
3. Analyze the significance of the doll test in the broader historical context.
 - Students will understand how the doll test was used in the *Brown v. Board of Education* case to challenge segregation laws.

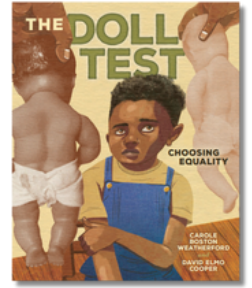
Materials:

- Picture book *The Doll Test* written by Carole Boston Weatherford and illustrated by David Elmo Cooper
- Chart paper and markers to create a timeline leading up to *Brown v. Board of Education*
- Handout with key terms
- Visuals or images of the dolls used in the doll test

Lesson Steps:

1. Introduction
 - Begin by discussing what students know about segregation and its effects on society.
 - Introduce Dr. Kenneth Clark and Dr. Mamie Clark as key figures who studied the impact of segregation on children.
 - Have students react to the illustrations on the front and back cover of the book. How does the artwork set the tone? How does it make them feel?

Lesson Steps Continued:



2. Read Aloud *The Doll Test: Choosing Equality*

- As you read, pause to ask questions, and encourage students to think about how the children in the story feel. Spend time looking at the images of the children as well as the dolls.
- Discuss key moments in the book that highlight the psychological impact of segregation.
- Read the author's and illustrator's notes at the back of the book. Discuss the impact of telling the story through the point of view of the dolls as well as the impact of the artwork.

3. Group Discussion: Reflecting on the Book

- After reading, lead a discussion on the book's themes. Ask questions such as:
- How did the children in the story feel about the dolls?
- Why do you think some children preferred the white doll over the Black doll?
- How does this make you feel, and why do you think it's important to understand these feelings?

4. Activity: Analyzing *The Doll Test*

- Show images of the actual dolls used in the doll test
- Discuss the experiment in more detail, explaining how the Clarks asked children to choose between the dolls and why their answers were important.
- Have students work in small groups to discuss how they would feel if they were part of the experiment.

5. Reflection and Closing

- Have students write a short reflection or draw a picture about what they learned from the book and how they think the children in the doll test felt.
- Invite a few students to share their reflections with the class.
- Conclude by emphasizing the importance of equality and how the doll test helped bring about positive changes in society.

Extension Activities

- Research other key figures in the Civil Rights Movement.
- Create a timeline of events leading up to the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision.

Key Terms

These terms will help students understand the key concepts and historical significance of the doll test and the *Brown v. Board of Education* case.

1. Segregation

Definition: The practice of keeping people of different races, religions, or genders separate from each other.

Example: In the past, segregation meant that Black and white children had to attend different schools.

2. Integration

Definition: The process of bringing different groups of people together, especially of different races.

Example: Integration allowed children of all races to attend the same schools.

3. Psychology

Definition: The scientific study of the mind and how it affects behavior.

Example: The doll test was an experiment in psychology that showed how segregation affected children's self-worth.

4. Supreme Court

Definition: The highest court in the United States that has the final say on legal decisions.

Example: The Supreme Court ruled in *Brown v. Board of Education* that school segregation was unconstitutional.

6. Unconstitutional

Definition: Not allowed by the rules of the Constitution, which is the highest law in the United States.

Example: The Supreme Court decided that segregating schools was unconstitutional.

7. NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People)

Definition: An organization that works to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of all people.

Example: The NAACP helped bring the *Brown v. Board of Education* case to the Supreme Court.

8. Civil Rights

Definition: The rights of citizens to political and social freedom and equality.

Example: The *Brown v. Board of Education* decision was a major victory for civil rights in America.

9. Overturn

Definition: To reverse or cancel a decision or rule.

Example: In the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, the Supreme Court overturned school segregation.

Individual, Small, or Large Group Discussion Questions

1. What do you think it means if something is “separate but not equal”? Can you think of examples where things might be separate but not fair or just?
2. Dr. Kenneth Clark and Dr. Mamie Clark were psychologists who created the doll test to see how segregation affected Black children. What did they discover? How do you think they felt while conducting this test?
3. The doll test was used in a court case called *Brown v. Board of Education*. What do you think the judges felt when they learned about the impact of segregation on children?
4. Why do you think it's important to learn about the past?
5. What has changed since the landmark decision of *Brown v. Board of Education*? What do you think still needs to be changed so that all children get an equal education?
6. Why do you think it is important for people to work together to change unjust laws and rules?
7. What is the difference between fairness and equity? Can something be fair but not equal?
8. How can we make sure everyone feels valued and proud of who they are?

Writing Prompts

1. What would your perfect school look like, where everyone is included and treated justly? How would that make students feel?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

2. If you were one of the dolls in the story, what would you want to say to the children?

RESEARCH IT!

Research other key figures in the Civil Rights Movement. Your goal is to learn about their life, achievements, and the challenges they faced.

Impact 1:

Impact 2:

Impact 3:

SELF

love



In the spaces below, list all the ways you can show
love and appreciation to yourself



Biography Research

Research other key figures in the Civil Rights Movement. Your goal is to learn about their life, achievements, and the challenges they faced.

This person is known for:

Picture

Early life:

Famous Quote:

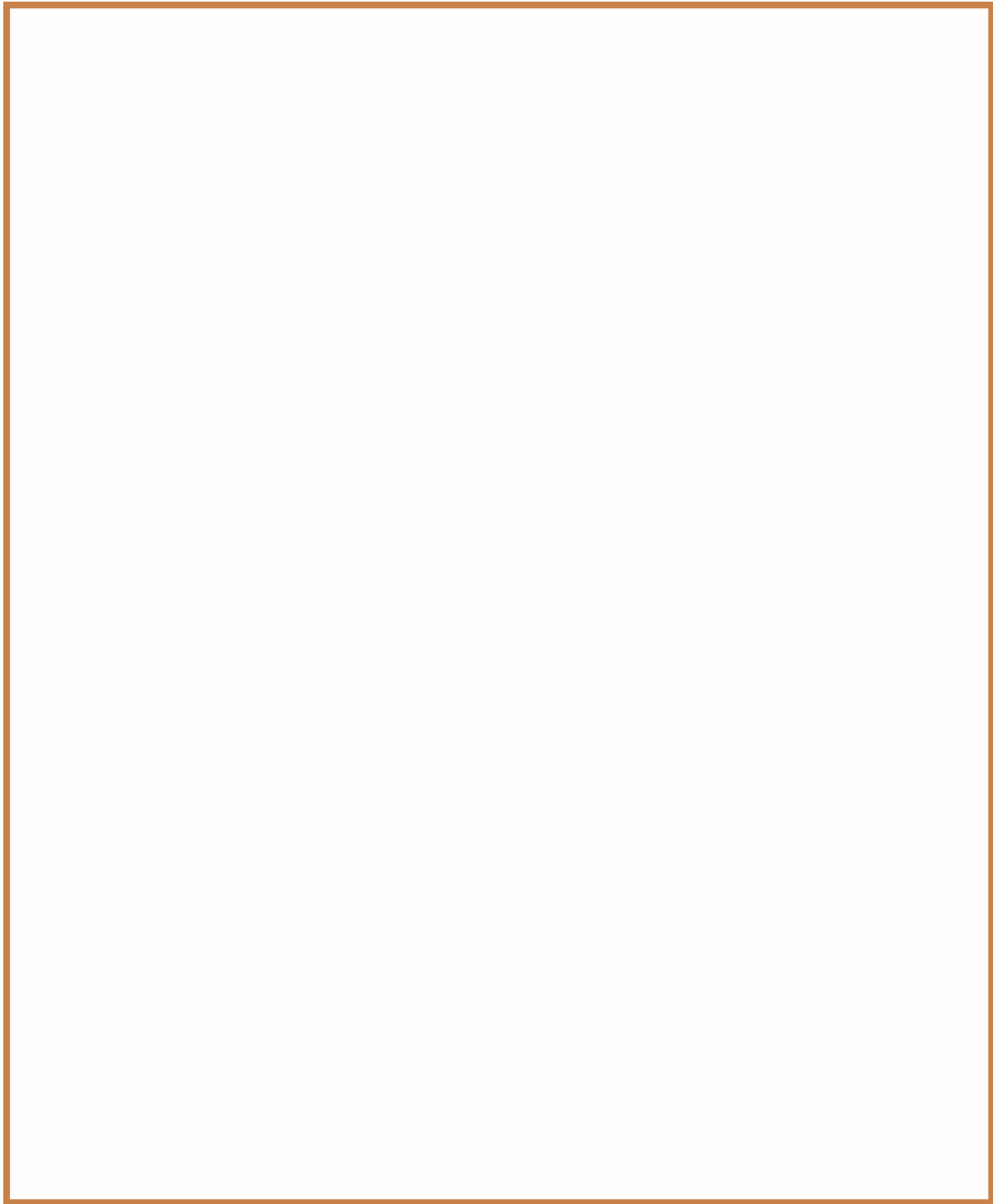
Challenges they faced:

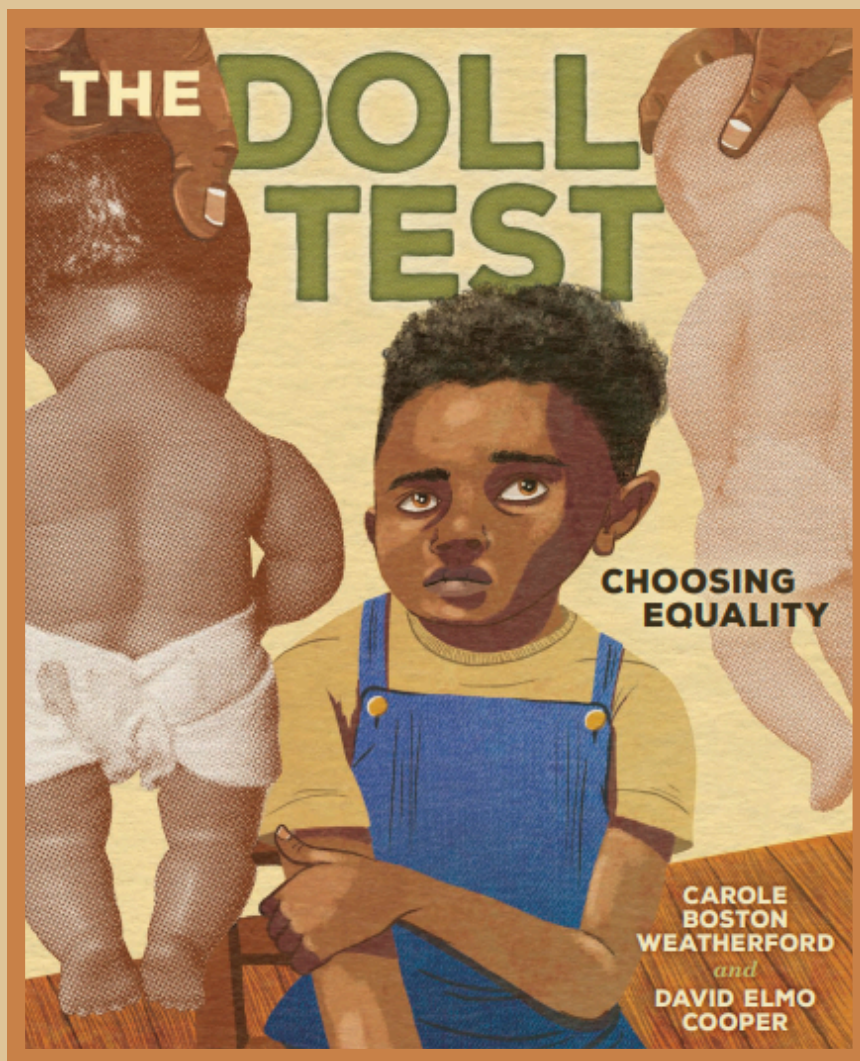
Accomplishments:

Fun facts:

Diversity Collage

Create a visual representations of diversity and inclusion in a community. Use images or words.





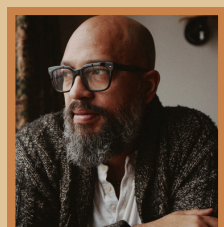
The Doll Test: Choosing Equality

Ages 7 - 11 LB: 978-1-7284-7793-0 • \$18.99 (list) • \$14.24 (S&L)

EB: 979-8-7656-3028-0 • \$33.32 (list) • \$24.99 (S&L)



Carole Boston Weatherford is the author of numerous award-winning books. Her picture book *BOX: Henry Brown Mails Himself to Freedom*, illustrated by Michele Wood received a Newbery Honor. *Unspeakable: The Tulsa Race Massacre*, illustrated by the late Floyd Cooper, was a National Book Award longlist title, won the Coretta Scott King Award for author and illustrator, and received a Caldecott Honor and a Sibert Honor. She was named the Young People's Poet Laureate in 2024 for her dedication to writing poetry for children. When she's not traveling or visiting museums, Carole is mining the past for family stories, fading traditions, and forgotten struggles. She lives in North Carolina.



David Elmo Cooper is a multi-media artist and muralist, born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. He is currently serving on the Board of Directors of The Society of Publications Designers. His work has appeared on book covers, ad campaigns, and editorial publications, such as the *New York Times*, *Print Magazine*, and *POZ Magazine*. David most recently illustrated the *New York Times* bestselling children's book, *Marcus Makes a Movie*, the debut children's book by comedian and actor Kevin Hart.