

Pre-reading: Gallery Walk (Adapted from *The Write Path: Teacher Guide for English Language Arts Middle Level through High School*. San Diego: AVID Center, 2002; original activity in Appendix)

Goal: To establish students' prior knowledge and to set expectation and purpose/offer background information before reading the text.

This strategy allows students to offer ideas and to interact with their peers' ideas in a safe manner. It prepares students for a more thoughtful discussion because they have specific ideas.

Steps:

1. Prepare the following pictures, questions, and words pertaining to the text, with each item posted at the top of a sheet of butcher paper so there is room below the item for students to write

Photos

- Central High cheerleaders, 1999 (Opposite Contents page in Will Counts book)
- Friends cornrowing student's hair, 1997 (p. 63, Will Counts)
- Central High School (Counts)
- Melba Patillo at 15 (photo section in student edition)

Questions

- What do you like best about school?
- If you could go to school anywhere you want, where would it be? Why?

Words

- The 1950s
- Brown v. Board of Education*
- Little Rock, Arkansas

2. Hang the butcher paper around the room in places where students can access them and with enough room between them for students to get around comfortably (perhaps in hallway)

3. Pairs of students, each pair with a different color marker (helps insure participation with accountability), interpreting what they see, making comments, or asking questions; Students/teacher can respond to the item provided and to other students' thoughts and questions; Establish guidelines for responding to others' ideas prior to the activity; allow 10 minutes

4. After 10 minutes, students stop writing and re-visit each paper, silently reading the ideas that are written there—it's like moving from exhibit to exhibit in a gallery

5. Students return to seats for class discussion; work through issues and questions; establish link between the exhibits and the reading

Distribute books; allow time to examine cover and photo sections
Read Introduction and pp. 1-3 to section break.

Photo source: Counts, I. W. [A Life is More Than a Moment: The Desegregation of Little Rock's Central High](#) / text and photographs by Will Counts; with essays by Will Campbell, Ernest Dumas, and Robert S. McCord. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1999.



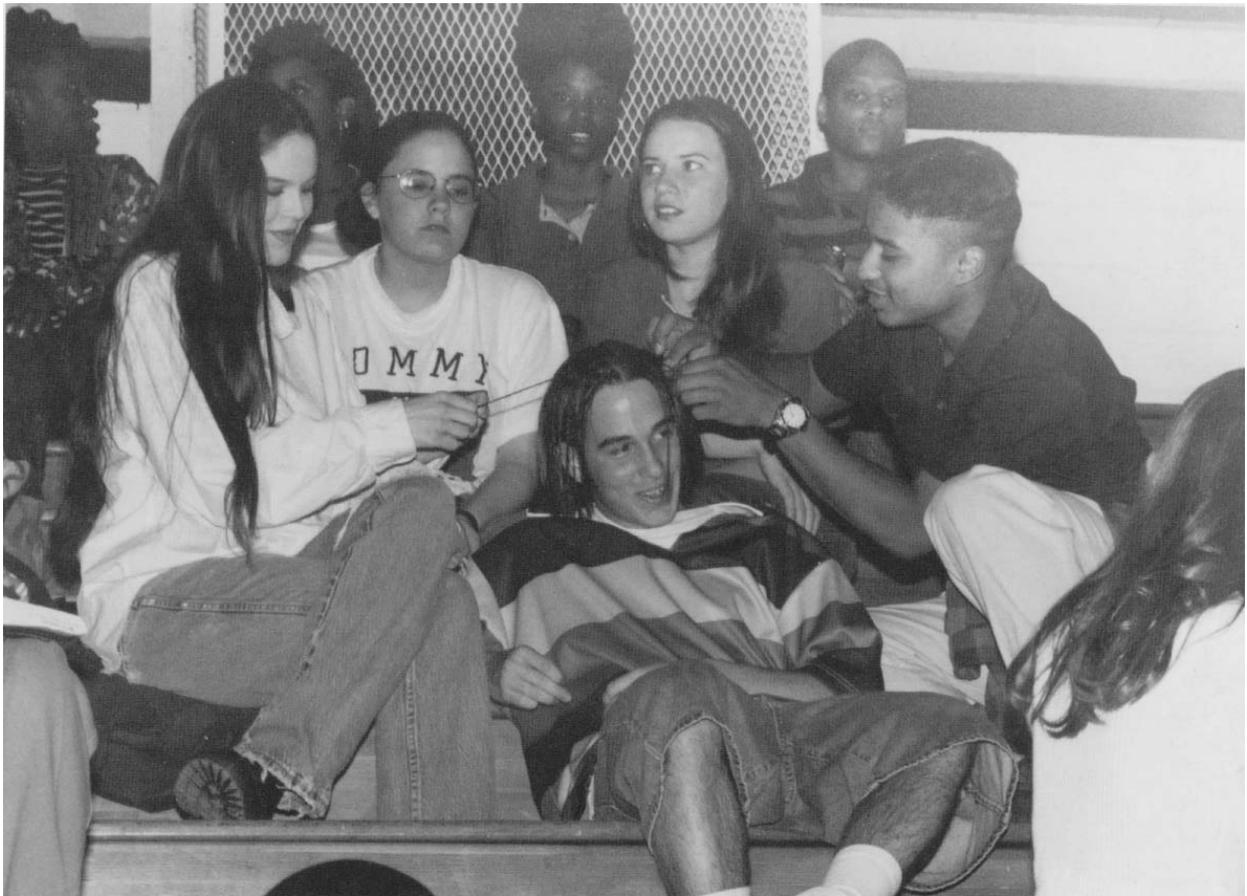


Photo Source: Beals, Melba Patillo. Warriors Don't Cry, Abridged Young Readers Edition.

