US-Mexico Border Project
Board Game

Learning Objective:
A hands on activity to help students understand the challenging journey of crossing the US-Mexico border

Supplies:
- Material for board (i.e. foam core, cardboard, etc)
- Markers
- Game Pieces
- Dice/spinner

Steps:
1) Hold class discussion about why people cross the border. Ask students to brainstorm obstacles people encounter while crossing.
2) Divide students in groups
3) Provide each group with supplies for constructing board
4) Make list of both positive and negative situations that commonly occur in the process of crossing the border
5) Creates game spaces on board
6) Decorate board
7) Have fun!

References:
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
http://www.uscis.gov

Discussion Questions:
- Why do you think people immigrate to the US?
- Why do you think people leave their home country?
- Why do you think we have border security?
- What do you think are some obstacles with crossing the border?
- What do you think is the safest way to cross the border?
- Why do you think people cross illegally?
- How do you think the process of earning citizenship has changed over time?

Lesson Extension:
- Have students keep a journal, as if they were crossing the US-Mexico border.
- Create a two-person poem from the viewpoint of two different people about the same thing. Example: border agent and humanitarian group representative; or mother staying behind and son leaving; or coyote and migrant; etc
- Make a list of what you’d bring with you to move into a new country, a new life, and explain why you’d bring each item. Be specific.