



SELFIE

sel·fie: a photograph that one has taken of oneself, typically one taken with a smartphone or webcam and shared via social media.

CONNECTING IDENTITY & PRIDE TO EXCELLENCE & ACHIEVEMENT

An African Ancestry Project-Based Learning Program



WHAT.

Young people everywhere can be seen snapping photos of themselves and sharing them with anyone who cares. But what do these manufactured, selfimpressions really say about who we are? Statistics show that kids with healthier esteems and identities are less likely to bully, be violent and even do drugs. African Ancestry, Inc. created The Ultimate Selfie: Connecting Identity & Pride to Excellence & Achievement, a project-based learning program, to help today's youth tap into a more authentic, meaningful self-image.

WHY:

- Enlightens the historic, cultural and social experiences of African Americans and how they connect to healthy identities in today's America
- Educates students and educators on the importance of knowing who you are and how science plays a role
- Inspires respect and pride among participants and their peers

Developed for educational communities of all levels, The Ultimate Selfie helps educators and student activities advocates deliver informative, educational and engaging initiatives to students, faculty and the communities they serve. The Ultimate Selfie is fresh, relevant and exciting, and seamlessly complements schools' efforts to provide a fertile foundation for learning, achievement and growth. Esteem-building, self-awareness and identity-enhancement are universal constructs from which everyone benefits. The Ultimate Selfie helps participants see and be their best selves, which in turn helps them excel in and outside of an educational environment.

Key Components:

- Student Development Activity (developed by or in conjunction with University)
- **African Ancestry Education Presentations**
- African Ancestry Genetic Tracing
- Special Events

STUDENT ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS:

- Present the science of genetics in a refreshed, pride-filled way
- Utilize genetic ancestry to inform new identities and promote excellence, achievement and leadership derived from self-pride
- Integrate genealogy research projects
- Chart ancestries of historic African American institutions such as Black businesses, churches and/or community institutions to augment course learning while promoting leadership and esteem

LEARNING BENEFITS:

- Increased genetic literacy
- Better understanding of role and importance of identity in self-development
- Stimulates self-pride and respect for others
- Increased global perspective
- Exposure to culturally relevant programming



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