



# SELFIE

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



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, self-impressions 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 Identities 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

#### HOW:

Developed for educational communities of all types, The Ultimate Selfie helps educators and allied youth advocates deliver informative, educational and motivational activities to students, faculty and community groups. The Ultimate Selfie is relevant, exciting and inspirational, and seamlessly complements educators' efforts to provide a fertile foundation for learning, achievement and growth. Esteem-building, self-awareness development 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 out of an educational environment.

#### **Key Components:**

- Student Learning Activity
- African Ancestry Education Presentations
- African Ancestry Testing
- Special Events
- Family Traditions

## STUDENT ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS:

- Create an age-appropriate, fun and compelling way to teach the science of genetics
- · Review family trees, DNA and human characteristics we all share
- Develop an interactive world geography activity lesson that focuses on African countries
- Chart African countries of origin of historic African-Americans during cultural observances
- Research various cultural practices and identify their application to students' family traditions

## LEARNING BENEFITS:

- · Heightened awareness and literacy around DNA and identity
- · Better understanding of the role and importance of identity in self-development
- Stimulates self-pride and respect for others
- Engages participants in culturally relevant content and programming



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