

Gloria Gaynor: The Power of Resilience Through Music

Grade Level: 3-5

Time: ~20 minutes

Objective: Learn about Gloria Gaynor's journey, the impact of music, and the theme of resilience.

NJSLS Alignment:

- **English Language Arts:** RL.3-5.2 (Determine central ideas and themes in a text)
 - **Social Studies:** 6.1.5.C.14 (Understand how individuals contribute to culture)
-

Instructions for Students

Step 1: Who is Gloria Gaynor? (5 min)

Gloria Gaynor is a **singer from New Jersey** best known for her hit song **"I Will Survive."** Her music became an **anthem of strength** for people facing challenges.



Fun Fact:

"I Will Survive" won the first-ever **Grammy Award for Best Disco Song** in 1980!



Quick Question:

Why do you think music can help people feel strong and hopeful? Write 2-3 sentences.

Step 2: Music & Resilience Challenge (10 min)



Your Challenge:

- Listen to (or read the lyrics of) **"I Will Survive."**
- Think about the **message** of the song. How does it inspire people?
- Write 2-3 sentences about a time **you** overcame a challenge and how you stayed strong.



Think About:

- What helped you during a difficult time?

- How does music make you feel better?
-

Step 3: Be Inspired! (5 min)

Gloria Gaynor's story teaches us that **no matter what happens, we can keep going!**



Write a paragraph about:

What song or activity helps you feel better when you're having a tough day? Why?



Want to learn more about New Jersey's greatest musicians? Visit the New Jersey Hall of Fame at American Dream!
