

Learning Activity Template

Title: Building Research Skills with Multi-grade Level Buddies

Curriculum: Social Studies

Grade-Level Span: Grades 2-4

Authors Names & School Districts: Heather Hietala & Cyndi Venberg Lowell School, Kim Bolf Lakewood School, Duluth Public Schools dist #709

PURPOSE: Students work together to teach each other about accessing information by creating a power point presentation.

DESCRIPTION: Fourth and third grade students will learn to solve an information problem about immigration and cultures using the Big 6. They will use what they know to work with second grade students as they research their questions about heritage. All groups will collaborate in the evaluation step at the end of the project.

ACTIVITIES	Curriculum Standards	Minnesota Technology Standards	ISTE-NETS	Information Literacy Standard	Big 6
Fourth and third graders prepare Power Points about immigration and cultures.		IA,IIID, IVA-C	1	1,2,3,6,8,9	1-6
Fourth and third grade students will learn how to cite sources using http://citationmachine.net/		IV A-C	8		4
Second Graders will prepare Power Points about their heritage.		IA,IIID	8,9		Super 3 1-3
Fourth and third graders work with Second graders to help with research for their Power Points. They will teach them about citing sources and help make a simple bibliography page.		IV A-C	8,9	1,2,3,6,8,9	4 Super 3 1-3
Culmination celebration of all classes presenting power point presentations together.					

TOOLS AND RESOURCES:

(List all Web sites, specific software and hardware, and other needs.)

Curriculum:

Social Studies Adventure in Time and Place

Scholastic Reading Anthology

Read aloud:

Aunt Flossie's Hat

Bridge to America

Immigration class set

Websites:

Fourth and Third Grade:

<http://www.kidskonnnect.com/Encyclopedia/EncyclopediaHome.html> (reference sites)

<http://citationmachine.net/> (Citation info)

<http://www.kathimitchell.com/immigrate.html> (immigration site)

Second Grade:

<http://www.kathimitchell.com/immigrate.html> (immigration site)

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/familytree/paper/index.shtml> (family tree)

Software:

MaxWrite

MaxShow

ASSESSMENT:

Evaluation (Reflection)

Name _____

Project Title _____

After your project, complete the front and back of this sheet. Use complete sentences.

1. Overall, how did making your project go? Explain.

2. Describe the best part of your project. Be sure to tell why it was the best.

3. What could you have done better? How?

4. How did you plan for your project? How will you plan differently next time?

5. What did you learn about the research process and making a power point?

Self-evaluation continued:

Please rate yourself from 1 to 5 on each element below.

1 improvement needed, 3 average, 5 excellent, couldn't have done better.

I was able to locate resources appropriate to my topic. 1 2 3 4 5

I was able to find at least one type of sources. 1 2 3 4 5

I followed the instruction sheet carefully. 1 2 3 4 5

I asked for help when I wasn't sure what to do. 1 2 3 4 5

My citation sheets were as complete as possible 1 2 3 4 5

I used my time well in the media center. 1 2 3 4 5

I completed each step on time. 1 2 3 4 5

I read through all my research, looked up words I didn't know, and then took notes before making my presentation. 1 2 3 4 5

I had the right amount of information. 1 2 3 4 5

I created a presentation that was logical and well-organized. 1 2 3 4 5

I created a presentation that contained original ideas. 1 2 3 4 5

This unit originally appeared in an article by Holly Smith & Cathlee Gallup, published in the Big6 eNewsletter, volume 7, number 3. www.big6.com

CREDITS (INCLUDING CONTACT INFORMATION):

(Record the names and e-mail addresses, if possible, of those who contributed to the development of this learning activity.)

Cyndi Venberg cyndi.venberg@duluth.k12.mn.us

Heather Hietala heather.hietala@duluth.k12.mn.us

Kimberly Bolf kimberly.evavold@duluth.k12.mn.us

COMMENTS:

Cyndi and Heather have been gathering their students together for the last two years. They have been working together in a peer teaching situation between the students. The grade levels have units on heritage and immigration during the months of November and December. We have decided to use the Big 6 idea to help students do research for a power point. The fourth graders will work more in depth on accessing information and then teaching the second graders how to access information on the internet. Both groups will make power point presentations. Kim will be working with her third graders to help them make PP presentations about culture. All three classes will be meeting in the late winter to share presentations and celebrate the success using the evaluation tools we have selected.
