

Learning Activity Template

Title: Symbols of America

Curriculum: Social Studies

Grade-Level Kindergarten

PURPOSE:

To introduce and familiarize Kindergarten students with various key symbols and songs that represent our country.

DESCRIPTION:

Using a series of 5 books on American symbols, the teacher will introduce and teach about symbols that are prevalent in American society. The teacher will incorporate technology as part of the follow up activities (where most of it is teacher created).

ACTIVITIES	CURRICULUM STANDARDS	NETS PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
(symbol: America Flag) The teacher will read the story <u>The American Flag</u> by Lloyd G. Douglas and discuss key ideas with students. The students will create a rebus book using the flag, related description words, and high frequency sight words. The students will use a teacher created template of sight words in sentences. The students will create their own flag using a link from Enchantedlearning.com .	S.S. vii 1	1.1;2.3; 3.1; 3.2
(symbol: White House)The teacher will read the story <u>The White House</u> by Lloyd G. Douglas and then students will create an individual page on the computer using a teacher created template for a class book on the topic "If I could visit the White House, I would..."	S.S. vii 1	1.1; 2.3;3.1; 3.2
(symbol: The Statue of Liberty) The teacher will read the story <u>The Statue of Liberty</u> by Lloyd G. Douglas and then discuss key points about the Statue of Liberty. The teacher will use the computer and	S.S. vii 1	1.1; 2.3;3.1; 3.2

overhead projection screen to give the students a virtual tour of the Statue of Liberty using the website NYCtourist.com. The students will use crayons to draw a representation of the Statue of Liberty included ideas that they learned from the book or virtual tour.		
(symbol: The Liberty Bell) The teacher will read the story <u>The Liberty Bell</u> by Lloyd G. Douglas and discuss key points. The students will then take a half dollar coin and make a rubbing of the backside. The students will also examine the coins using a Proscope and discuss what things they can identify on the coin from information learned in the story.	S.S. vii 1	1.1; 2.3;3.1; 3.2
(symbol: The Pledge of Allegiance) The teacher will read the story <u>The Pledge of Allegiance</u> distributed by Scholastic Inc. (special commemorative edition) and discuss what each part of the pledge means. Students will then practice the pledge. The teacher will then film the students saying the pledge and what it means to them. The teacher will then create an imovie of this footage.	S.S. vii 1	1.1; 2.3;3.1; 3.2; 4.2
Song: America the Beautiful The teacher will read the story <u>America the Beautiful</u> distributed by Scholastic Inc and discuss the meaning of the song. Students will then listen to a recording of the song on C.D. The students will then learn the song. The students will then use a Mac drawing program to make a pictoral representations of a part of the song and then explain what their picture means.	S.S. vii 1	1.1;2.3; 4.2

TOOLS AND RESOURCES:

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

books named above; Mac computers; digital camera/digital video camera (for imovie); imovie software; Mac drawing program; overhead/computer projector; Word or Appleworks software; recording of America the Beautiful; American flag; proscope; half dollar coins (pre-1976); pencils; paper; symbol bingo cards; bingo markers

Websites:

<http://www.NYCTourist.com>

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com>

ASSESSMENT:

(How will you assess the students' learning? If you have a rubric, record it here. Be as specific as possible.)

The students are assessed in various ways.

1. Informal teacher observations.
2. Verbal question/answer/discussions. Students should be able to name at least 2 things they learned about each symbol.
3. The students will play symbol Bingo (recognition).

CREDITS (INCLUDING CONTACT INFORMATION):

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

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COMMENTS:

(Have you taught this learning activity before? What are the great ah ha's/experiences you had?)

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