

Learning Activity Template

Title: Book Review Blog

Curriculum: Language Arts

Grade-Level Span: Starting in grades 5-12

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PURPOSE:

The purpose of this project is to allow students to creatively express their opinions of the books they have read, as well as allow them to read fellow student reviews and comment.

DESCRIPTION:

The idea here would be for when a student/teacher reads a book (any book) they then go to a pre set up page where they will add their reviews. (they can add to previous reviews as well as comment on them) In time hopefully the site would be something all our schools students will be using when selecting a book as well as adding to. Students would have some guidelines to follow as far as what they can write, however creative writing would be a major part of it. Obviously if this is something that gets going fast, there would be no way to pre- check every review that goes on the web- Students will have to be aware of the consequences!

	Curriculum Standards	Minnesota Technology Standards	ISTE-NETS	Information Literacy Standard	Big 6
Read any book			#1		#4
Form an opinion of the book			#2		#6
Write a review expressing opinions			#3		#5
Post the review on our schools library book review blog site			#9	IV- C	#5
Read fellow student reviews			#4	III- C	#4
Post a comment on fellow student reviews			#9	IV-C	#6

TOOLS AND RESOURCES:

<http://mesabieastlibrary.edublogs.org/>

ASSESSMENT: (N/A)

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Weekend Projects-

- Look into setting up my own webquest(s) (many webquests may be taken from the world wide web, but I want to set up my own webquest so I understand the process and can customize it to my schools individual teachers and curriculum).
- Have a starting point for creating a book club/ book review school blog site.

Webquest 1: Current Events- Reaction to North Koreas recent bomb testing.

Class will be divided into 5 different groups: Japan, U.S., N. Korea, Leader of Terrorist Group, and S. Korea.

Each group will answer the following questions.

Japan- As a leader what were my initial feelings about the testing?
How should we respond? (How you want to respond in comparison to how you will respond? Why are they different or are they?
By your actual response what outcome(s) are you looking for?
What is a worst case scenario?

Web pages to use-

<http://www.csmonitor.com/2006/1011/p11s01-woap.html>

http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/national/1104AP_Japan_NKorea.html

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/asia-pacific/5149970.stm>

(More sites and library resources to be added later)

U.S. - Same Questions as Japan (*sites to be filled in later*)

S. Korea- Same Questions as Japan (*sites to be filled in later*)

Terrorist Group Leader- What are my initial feelings about the testing?
What effect could these testings have on our group?
- Both positive and negative from our perspective?
Do we want interaction with N. Korea.?

N. Korea- Why did we do it?
What are some possible positive outcomes?
What are some possible neg. outcomes?
What is our next move? (*sites to be filled in later*)

Webquest 2- Iron Range History – Hibbing moving it's town in the year 1913.

Class will be divided into 7 different perspectives from the town.

Mine Owners, Mine Workers, Town Mayor, Local business owner, local farmer, 15 year old boy who lives in Hibbing, and the a panel of people who will decide whether the move is a good idea or bad one?

The situation is a town meeting in which the 6 different perspectives will all speak and voice their opinions about the positives and negatives of completely moving a town- Then the panel will decide what to do?

(some places to start) www.uslink.net/~hibbhist/museum.html

www.ironworld.com

<http://www.hibbing.org>

(I will add more sites as well as library resources- Books, newspapers, etc.)

*** Project two-** Starting an online book review site for our students (Kind of a blog)

The idea here would be for when a student/teacher reads a book (any book) they then go to a pre set up page where they will add their reviews. (they can add to previous reviews as well as comment on them) In time hopefully the site would be something all our schools students will be using when selecting a book as well as adding to. Students would have some guidelines to follow as far as what they can write, however creative writing would be a major part of it. Obviously if this is something that gets going fast, there would be no way to pre- check every review that goes on the web- Students will have to be aware of the consequences!

<http://mesabieastlibrary.edublogs.org/> - (Already signed up and played with some)