

Native American Month

by Stephanie Dunn

Standards

- IL.4.B STANDARD: Speak effectively using language appropriate to the situation and audience.
- IL.4.B.EC > Communicate needs, ideas and thoughts.
- IL.4.B.1b > Participate in discussions around a common topic.
- IL.5.A STANDARD: Locate, organize, and use information from various sources to answer questions, solve problems and communicate ideas.
- IL.5.A.EC > Seek answers to questions through active exploration.
- IRA.12.4 ...select and evaluate instructional materials for literacy, including those that are technology-based
- IRA.2.5 ...demonstrate an understanding of the interrelation of reading and writing, and listening and speaking
- NCTE.2.6 ...recognize the impact that culture, societal events and issues have on teachers, students, the English language arts curriculum, and education in general;
- NCTE.3.2.1 ...demonstrate the influence of language and visual images on thinking and composing;

Resources

[Native American Website](#)

This is the picture walk website!

Overview and Rationale

The purpose of this lesson, is to activate prior knowledge. Students will use the internet to start a picture walk; they will be discussing what they see in a variety of paintings representing Native American culture. This lesson is important because students are gaining insight into Native American culture and learning new vocabulary.

Objectives

Students will evaluate paintings and describe what the image means to them.

Students will participate in a classroom discussion of their findings.

Students will construct a reflective journal entry on their thoughts and new vocabulary terms in regards to the Native American paintings.

Materials

<http://www.nga.gov/kids/catlin/catlin1.htm>

Journals

Pen & Paper

Discussion Questions

Computers with internet access

Procedure

1. Students will log on to the appropriate internet site.
2. The teacher will explain that the students are going to go on a picture walk.
3. Each student will have five minutes to look at the pictures individually.
4. The teacher will bring the group back together to lead a classroom discussion.
5. The teacher will explain some of the new vocabulary terms that the students may have seen on the picture walk.
6. The students will return to their desks to start a journal entry. They should reflect on the picture walk and the new vocabulary terms.

Discussion Questions:

- Which picture stood out most to you? Why?
- What tribes did you notice in the paintings or descriptions?
- How would you describe the colors that were used?
- What do you think about the clothing the Native Americans wore?

Assessment

Students will be assessed by their completion of their journal and participation in the class discussion.

The teacher can use a checklist to mark down which students participated and shared their thoughts about the questions.

The teacher will be looking for reflective thoughts or emotions used in the journal entry. The teacher will be grading for thought content, not grammar and spelling.