

Being Healthy in First Grade

Author: Lori Darst, Teresa Rhyne, Brenda Bezio, Kristie Hulbert

Grade Level: Grade 1

Overview:

This unit of study focuses on nutrition. Using the Four Block reading framework students will be provided with opportunities to learn about nutrition through guided reading, shared reading, read aloud, working with words and writing.

NYS Learning Standards Addressed:

English Language Arts

- **Standard 1:** Language for Information and Understanding
- **Standard 2:** Literary Response and Expression
- **Standard 3:** Critical Analysis and Evaluation
- **Standard 4:** Language for Social Interaction

Health

Standard 1: Personal Health and Fitness

Connection to District Learning Standards:

- Critical Thinker
 - Effective Communicator
 - Responsible Citizen
 - Lifelong Learner
 - Healthy Citizen
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Democracy in Action - Following the U.S. Presidential Election

Authors: Marjorie Light, Kevin Larkin

Grade Level: Grade 7

Overview:

This is an interdisciplinary unit on the Revolutionary War, to be used with an ELA/Social Studies block and incorporating art and technology. The unit will culminate with a Living Museum which have presentations and displays created by the students. The unit will focus on the history of the war era, including the everyday lives of the people, along with the art, technology and literature of the time.

NYS Learning Standards Addressed:

English Language Arts

Standard 1: Language for Information and Understanding

Standard 2: Language for Critical Analysis and Evaluation

Standard 4: Social Interaction

Social Studies

Standard 1: History of United States and New York

Standard 3: Geography

Standard 4: Economy

Standard 5: Civics, Citizenship and Government

MST

Standard 5: Technology.

Connection to District Learning Standards:

- Critical Thinker
 - Effective Communicator
 - Responsible Citizen
 - Lifelong Learner
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Frida, Diego y Yo

Author: Elizabeth Luscombe

Grade Level: Grade 7

Overview:

The purpose of this project is to provide foreign language students with an opportunity to strengthen their Spanish vocabulary and speaking skills while immersing themselves in the culture of Mexico through art.

The work of Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera provides tremendous insight into the traditions and culture of Mexico and its people. Students will explore both the language and the culture of Mexico through the eyes of two of its most famous artists.

Students will learn to interpret the cultural symbols presented in the artists' work as they learn about the artists' lives and the historical events that inspired their work.

Spanish vocabulary will be further reinforced and utilized as students are challenged to describe and analyze qualities of the artists' work. Students will create and describe simple self-portraits, in Spanish.

NYS Learning Standards Addressed:

LOTE

- **Standard 1:** Use a language other than English to communicate
- **Standard 2:** Develop cross-cultural skills and understandings

The Arts

- **Standard 1:** Creating, Performing and Participation
- **Standard 4:** Understanding Cultural Contributions of the Arts

Connection to District Learning Standards:

- Critical Thinker
 - Effective Communicator
 - Responsible Citizen
 - Lifelong Learner
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GPS Marks the Spot: Mapping Community Treasures

Authors: Mal Cutaiar, Kym Duffina, Bryan Gottlob, Kate Messner, Barbara Napper

Grade Level: Grade 7 (easily adaptable for other levels, assumes students have prerequisite skills of library research and application of math concepts)

Overview:

The purpose of this project is to challenge students to use a variety of skills in a dynamic, real-life setting and to connect students' classroom learning with the resources in their community. The unit focuses on a geography-based treasure hunt activity called geocaching.

Geocaching is a game invented by users of GPS navigational systems - a worldwide treasure hunt using latitudinal and longitudinal coordinates along with encrypted clues to locate hidden items. Our students will work in teams, using GPS units and related clues to find curriculum-related resources in the community.

Ultimately they will create a map of community treasures, using the resources from their daylong experience and their GPS logs.

NYS Learning Standards Addressed:

English Language Arts

- **Standard 1:** Language for Information and Understanding
- **Standard 2:** Literary Response and Expression
- **Standard 3:** Critical Analysis and Evaluation
- **Standard 4:** Social Interaction

Social Studies

- **Standard 1:**History of United States and New York
- **Standard 2:** World History

MST

- **Standard 3:** Mathematics
- **Standard 4:** Science
- **Standard 6:** Interconnectedness
- **Standard :** Interdisciplinary Problem Solving

Connection to District Learning Standards:

- Critical Thinker
 - Effective Communicator
 - Responsible Citizen
 - Lifelong Learner
 - Healthy Citizen
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Integrating the Recorder into the Fourth and Fifth Grade Curriculum

Author: Sandy Verity

Grade Level: Grades 4 & 5

Overview:

The purpose of this unit is to continue the use of the recorder in the fourth and fifth grades after the initial introduction at grade three. The recorder will be used to meet the NYS Learning Standards by providing an additional performance instrument, an additional method to introduce and reinforce note reading, and a highly motivational tool for the general music classroom.

NYS Learning Standards Addressed:

Arts

- **Standard 1:** Creating, Performing and Participating
- **Standard 2:** Knowing and Using Materials
- **Standard 3:** Responding to and Analyzing
- **Standard 4:** Understanding the Contributions.

Connection to District Learning Standards:

- Critical Thinker
- Effective Communicator
- Responsible Citizen

- Lifelong Learner
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Intermediate Science Fair

Authors: Sarah McCarty, Mary Gertsch-Cochran

Grade Level: Grade 3-5

Overview:

This is one component of the Odyssey Program that is geared to students in grades 3-5. It is an eight-week learning unit that includes a sequential group of lessons to engage students in the various branches of science from the current MST curriculum guidelines. It will facilitate an understanding of project options and provide students with a variety of resources. Students will create individual research projects and participate in a culminating science fair display and presentation.

NYS Learning Standards Addressed:

English Language Arts

Standard 1: Read, write, listen and speak for Information and Understanding

MST

Standard 4: Science, Physical and Living Environment

Connection to District Learning Standards:

- Critical Thinker
 - Effective Communicator
 - Lifelong Learner
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South Asia: A Journey Through Literature and History

Authors: Karen Bisso, Neil Bowlen

Grade Level: Secondary English/Global Students

Overview :

The purpose of this project is to challenge students with an activity-driven, in-depth study and analysis of South Asian culture, as well as current trends and literature which accentuate this topic. Historical religious awareness, geographical implications of this political hot spot, traditional vs. modern social structures, political fracturing and establishment of co-existing nations, 60 years of unrest, historical non-violent passive resistance techniques and its leaders and present nuclear sensitivities make this area critical in the examination of global cultures.

Connection to NYS Learning Standards:

English Language Arts

- **Standard 1:** Language for Information and Understanding
- **Standard 2:** Literary Response and Expression
- **Standard 3:** Critical Analysis and Evaluation
- **Standard 4:** Social Interaction

Global Studies

- **Standard 1:** World History
- **Standard 2:** Geography
- **Standard 3:** Economics
- **Standard 4:** Government

Connection to District Learning Standards:

- Critical Thinker
 - Effective Communicator
 - Responsible Citizen
 - Lifelong Learner
 - Healthy Citizen.
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You've Got the Power: Becoming Study Smart

Authors: Kathleen Donelli, Debra Favro, Nona Garrand, Carolyn Miller, Nancy Strack

Grade Level: Grade 6

Overview:

Students who consistently do well in school practice good study habits and are well organized. Study skills and organizational skills do not come naturally to most people – they must be learned.

Learning To Learn is a unit designed to improve test scores across the curriculum, particularly in ELA. It is intended to support students in their efforts to utilize information and comprehend concepts in written documents. Students will be given direct instruction in strategies designed to help improve home-study skills, read factual information more effectively, glean information from lengthy written material, develop note-taking skills, and use rich vocabulary to enhance their writing.

The ultimate goal of this unit is to produce students who can gather, assimilate, and effectively communicate information.

NYS Learning Standards Addressed:

English Language Arts

- **Standard 1:** Information and Understanding
- **Standard 2:** Response and Expression
- **Standard 3:** Critical Analysis and Evaluation

MST

- **Standard 3:** Mathematics
- **Standard 6:** Interconnectedness

Social Studies

- **Standard 2:** World History

Connection to District Learning Standards:

- Critical Thinker
- Effective Communicator
- Lifelong Learner