



Geography Integrated Lesson Plan

Title: Learning the States and Capitals for the United States

Subjects: Geography, Mathematics, Social Studies, Spelling/Language Arts

Duration of lesson: Five days, 40 minutes each day

Teacher: James Barbery

PURPOSE/OVERVIEW Make the essential tasks of being able to name and locate each State and State Capitals throughout the United States fun by having students compete to name the States and Capitals via an online Quiz. Introduce students to writing their own state books using Tarheel Reader online writing and publishing..

ESSENTIAL OR GUIDING QUESTION: Everyone needs to be able to locate and name all of the states and capitals throughout the United States. Let's see if you can accomplish this. Let's see who can do it the fastest. And let's have big fun along the way - culminating with the production of our own illustrated state books that will be shared with the world.

VOCABULARY: State, capital, United States, map, location, boundary, scale, relative, absolute, geographic. All the states and capitals.

WEST VIRGINIA CONTENT STANDARDS

SS.O.5.4.4:

compare and contrast the various regions of the United States, locate each of the fifty United States and correlate them with their regions.

GEOGRAPHY STANDARDS

Standard 1 - How to Use Maps and Other Geographic Representations, Tools, and Technologies to Acquire, Process, and Report Information From a Spatial Perspective

21ST CENTURY LEARNING SKILLS AND TECHNOLOGY TOOLS

21C.O.5-8.1.LS.3:

Student presents thoughts, ideas, and conceptual understanding efficiently, accurately and in a compelling manner and enhances the oral or written presentation through the use of technology.

MATERIALS: (include resources)

Smartboard (whiteboard), Owl and Mouse U.S. States and Capitals, and individual computers with web access

<http://www.yourchildlearns.com/Quiz/states-and-capitals.html>

<http://www.tarheelreader.org>

<http://www.google.com>

MAP INTEGRATION:

Relative map of United States as well as photographs from each state and capital through Tarheel Reader.

<http://www.yourchildlearns.com/Quiz/states-and-capitals.html>

PROCEDURE: (include activity sheets)

All activities are done on smartboard with exception of group activities during Tarheel Reader productions by groups and individuals during final two days of the five day lesson plan.

Day 1: Teacher to discuss the vocabulary terms and to introduce students to the “Owl and Mouse” website. The class will discuss and take the quiz as a group.

Day 2: Review of vocabulary. Divide the class into five groups. Each group to complete the “Owl and Mouse” quiz, competing for best time. A reward will be given to the group who completes the quiz the fastest.

Day 3: Give students vocabulary quiz. Then have the individual students take the “Owl and Mouse” quiz indendendently. Students who earn 100 percent on the states and capitals quiz get extra credit.

Day 4: Divide into the five groups. Log into <http://www.tarheelreader.org>

You may use the login name “goeyllama” and password “jl04270” (or register your own). Have each group login. Instruct the groups to select “write a book” snf then select writing your book. Have the students “enter some words” to search Flickr photographs relating to the 10 states each group is assigned. Then have the groups search the Internet for interesting (something to remember) facts to create cutlines for each photo they select.

Have each group enter a title and save their books as a draft.s

Day 5: Students complete writing the 10 state books. Publish the books on Tarheel Reader. Display the books on the smartbaord and share them with the class (and the world) through the automated reading.

CONCLUSION/SUMMARY

The students should have a better understanding of the relevant geography terms. They have had the opportunity to work together with technology. They have had writing and reasearch practive and they can now use the tarheel reader program. They can locate and match each state and state capital. And, we all have a little better understanding of geography.

ASSESSMENT

The online <http://www.yourchildlearns.com/Quiz/states-and-capitals.html> quiz is a gauge of the success of students in meeting the challenge of being able to locate and name the states and capitals.

The students were quized during day three on vocabulary and on the relative geography of the United States.

The stories created on tarheel reader also provide the opportunity for assessment relative to this assignment.

Note: this lesson plan may (and possibly should be) be expanded to a two week period in the instance of educators intetested in giving students additional exposure to tarheel reader and to ensure that the learning objectives are met by each individual student.