

A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

Name: Gwen James
Grade: 6th
School/District: Madison

Title: Island of the Blue Dolphins
Subject: Language Arts/Reading
Time Frame: 6-9 weeks (depends on schedule)

Duration of Lesson: 45 with an additional 15 minute session each day
(The 15 minute session for students who used part of their lunch time to work on projects.)

Special notes to consider.

This reading lesson is the foundation of the novel *Island of the Blue Dolphins*. Therefore, it will take six to nine weeks to complete.

Students will be given a study guide for each chapter. It will include comprehension questions and vocabulary assignments.

The teacher will introduced this novel to the students by using background information about the author and the main character Wonapalei (Karana).

Procedures:

Activity 1: Using the audio and novel the students will listen/read 2 chapters each day. A class discussion will follow using the study guide that contains comprehension questions and vocabulary assignments. The students will be assigned a novel to take home for a more in-depth study.

Activity 2: The students will be asked to bring pictures that depict each chapter read. The purpose of this activity is to make a mural that captures the essence of the novel. Also, the students will surf the web to find pictures that relate to the story. These pictures will be stored on a flash drive to be used in a power point presentation.

Activity 3: The students will write an Acrostic poem using the title of the novel or the names of the characters. If possible, they are to draw a picture that depicts the poem they composed.

Activity 4: There are 29 chapters. Each student will be assigned a chapter to summarize. They will be placed in groups of 5's to recite their summaries while focusing on organizational skill (special note: Ask for volunteers for the remaining chapters if you don't have twenty-nine students.)

Activity 5: The students will continue in their groups and help each other critique and edit their writings, focusing on spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and grammar and word usage. After proofreading is completed by student/teacher, a power point presentation will be used as their final project. The students will have to input the information on a slide and choose a picture (background) that depicts the chapter summary.

(Special Note: Since the students will be placed in groups, they will have a group member(s) who is comfortable enough to type his/her summary and show them how to choose a back ground (picture) that will make their summary complete.)

Activity 6: Whole Group Discussion: As a class, we will preview the power point presentation for any errors and conduct a dress rehearsal before the big day.

Activity 7: Presentation Day--- The students will present their creation to their teachers, parents and peers in the Library. Several classes (5th and 6th graders) will be invited.

Modifications: (ELL, ESE, Gifted or High Achievers)

Whole Group, small group, independent and paired with another student to answer study guide comprehension questions and vocabulary assignments.

Audio book and the abridged text-(Used to increase fluency, comprehension skills and vocabulary development.)

The lesson and activities will be modified according to exceptional students IEP specifications.

Expand the project by using an additional power point to include sea-life on the island

Technology: The students will use a Data projector, Laptop and digital camera.

Software: Power Point

Evaluation/Assessments

The students will take an Accelerated Reader Test for comprehension and vocabulary on the computer.

The teacher will grade and discuss the comprehension questions, summarizes and vocabulary assignments.

The students will demonstrate their understanding of the novel through their creation of the power point, poems, and illustrations.

*Mrs. G James 5th period reading class
Madison County Central School*