

Gary Fitchpatrick
Section 5 Japanese Kite Project:
Subject Matter: Japanese Kites
Student Grade Level: 7th Grade
Duration: 5 Days

Japan:

The major theme of my Japanese lesson will focus on the art of kites to gain an enhanced view of the significance of the kite in Ancient Japan as well as gain knowledge of symbolism and varieties of artwork used in kite making. The objective of my lesson is to have the students create a kite using traditional Japanese artwork or symbols to show an understanding of the Japanese culture. The students will use multiple print and electronic resources to find the information to complete the lesson. The assignments that will lead up to the lesson will inform the students of what traditional Japanese kites represent their origins and what some of the traditional themes used in kite decorating are. This lesson's theme is Regions and People of the Eastern Hemisphere: History and Early Civilizations. The eight features of civilizations include cities, well-organized central governments, complex religions, job specialization, social classes, arts and architecture, public works and writing. Content Statement: Early peoples developed unique civilizations. Several civilizations established empires with legacies influencing later peoples. Early civilizations (India, Egypt, China and Mesopotamia) with unique governments, economic systems, social structures, religions, technologies and agricultural practices and products flourished as a result of favorable geographic characteristics.

Objectives:

Students will learn about the significance of kites in Ancient Japanese culture.

State Standards:

People in Societies:

- A. Compare cultural practices, products and perspectives of past civilization in order to understand commonality and diversity of cultures.
- B. Explain how contact between different cultures impacts the diffusion of belief systems, art, science, technology, language and forms of government.

Social Studies Skills and Methods:

- A. Analyze different perspectives on a topic obtained from a variety sources.

People and Society:

- B. Analyze the ways that contracts between people of different cultures result in exchanges of cultural practices.

Goals:

1. The students will effectively create an authentic Japanese kite using artwork that will demonstrate their knowledge of Japanese kite making.

Materials:

1. Kite template
2. Art Supplies: paint, Ink, Markers
3. Internet
4. Multiple print materials for each individual student

Section 6 On Line Resources:

www.linguanaut.com/japanese_symbols.htm

www.japanese.about.com/library/bl50kanji.htm

www.kwintessential.co.uk/articles/japan/japanese-symbols

www.kwintessential.co.uk/articles/japan/japanese-symbols-tiger-dragon-snake-rooster/1380

www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kite

<http://www.kitesintheclassroom.com/>

Video Resources:

National Geographic Explorer segment "The Great Kite Fight"

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EM0z4mASWCA>

Print Resources:

The Emperor and the Kite. Yolen, Jane. Philomel Books, New York:1967

Pakistan bans kite flying, Associated Press. Aug. 17, 2003

Procedure:

Day 1:

1. Have students watch The Great Kite Fight, discuss film and kite festival and various kite festivals around the world especially in Japan. Orally read newspaper article Pakistan bans kite flying.
2. Orally read the Emperor and the Kite, then discuss.
3. Discuss the kite rubric with students.
4. Have students use internet and print sources to get an idea for artwork for their particular design.
5. Once design is chosen students can practice design on paper, once design clears criteria by using Japanese Kite rubric student may get kite to begin decorating kite.

Day 2:

1. Share design ideas with class.
2. Work on kite using art supplies.

Day 3:

1. Work on kite using art supplies.

Day 4:

1. Finish artwork on kites.
2. Show students how to construct kite kit.
3. Students will construct kites.

Day 5:

1. Go fly kites!

Japanese Kite Rubric

- Creatively and neatly done 10pts.
 - Kite follows traditional Japanese style 4pts.
 - Used Japanese characters or symbols to illustrate kite 3 pts.
 - Used time wisely in construction of kite 3 pts.
- 20 pts. Total

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