

China's River Valleys

Purpose:

This is a lesson introduce students to the historical significance of ancient China's river valleys and how civilization developed around them.

Rational:

This lesson will allow students to express themselves artistically while learning about China's ancient river civilizations.

Materials:

- 1) Textbook: The Ancient World. Prentice Hall or substitute
- 2) Colored pencils or substitute
- 3) Blank Paper

Activities:

Preparation

Have student bring colored pencils to class and review Section one of chapter five of the textbook.

Ask the students to describe a Dragon. After they have share with them that in Chinese mythology dragons are friendly breasts, and a respected spirit. They bring good luck.

Give Instruction

Pass out the written instructions to the students and read them together.

Work

Allow students enough time to create there drawings.

Assessment:

The information shared and the effort put into the drawings can be evaluated.

Grade Adaptation:

This lesson is intended for students in the middle school but it is easily modified.

- 1) For lower grades require less information.
- 2) For higher grades the Dragon metaphor can be made more elaborate.

Student Handout

For thousands of years the dragon has symbolized the rivers of China now you will create a dragon that symbolizes one of china's great rivers, the Huang He or the Yangzi River. The dragons tail will be the source, the legs are tributaries and the mouth the delta.

You will then use Section 1, of Chapter five to fill your dragon with relevant information about life around your dragon. The information can be displayed in words or pictures and can be on, in or around your dragon.

The information should include a representation or explanation of : China's Sorrow's, flooding, crops, middle kingdom, dikes, terraces, the differences between north and south China, loess, monsoons and anything else you think is important.