

Frontier Grant Lesson Plan

Teacher: Andrea Brannan

Topic: Holidays and Traditions

Grade/Subject: 2nd Grade/ Social Studies

Lesson Duration: 30-45 minutes

Idaho Content Standards:

Goal 5.1 (Social Studies): Build an understanding of multiple perspectives and global interdependence.

- 2.SS.5.1.2 Compare traditions practiced in other parts of the world.

Goal 4.2 (Language Arts): Acquire Expository (Informational/Research) Writing Skills

- 2.LA.4.2.2 Write brief explanations or observations of real objects, persons, places, events, or processes.

Guiding/essential questions:

- Do you think everyone in the world celebrates the same holidays?
- What kinds of holidays do we celebrate in the United States that may not be observed in other parts of the world?
- What categories do holidays fall under? (traditions)
- Are there different ways or traditions that people may use to celebrate the same holiday?
- When you think about holidays what words come to mind?

Learning activities:

- The students will take a common tune and rewrite a song using words and ideas that go along with the concept being taught.
- I used Valentine's Day for my students to create a song that described the holiday/celebration of Valentine's Day. They used the song "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star." This is a great cross curricular activity as the students have to focus on the Language Arts aspect of creating the new song. They will need to count syllables as well as rhyming patterns.
- To begin the activity, ask the students to brainstorm words and phrases that relate to the particular holiday. Then write the whole verse of the song they will use to model their songs on the board. Discuss and find all of the syllables in each line as a class, and talk about the rhyming pattern.
- Then in groups of 4 or 5, the students will work together to create a song about Valentine's Day(or any other holiday) to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star"(or any other familiar song).

Assessment method(s):

- During the class, take informal assessment of the students. Make sure they have a clear understanding of the assignment. Ask them to repeat or show what they are doing.
- The whole group will then practice the song and then share their song with the rest of the class.

Materials/Handouts/ Links:

- Paper, something to write with, a commonly known tune for students to recognize.