Sydney Bland

River Civilization Unit Plan

Unit Rationale

**River Civilization Unit Plan: Nile River Civilization**

**Unit Rationale**

For this unit, students will be working in groups to learn about the Nile River Civilization and Ancient Egypt. Students will be working with the five themes of geography (location, place, relationship between places, movements, and region) in various parts of the unit, working with a different theme each day. Students will participate in various activities that will help them form an understanding of Ancient Egypt and the important aspects of the civilization. Students will be working with the different themes, focusing on different parts of the civilization like the Nile River, mummification, hieroglyphics, and various other topics throughout the lessons. Students will examine these different topics to figure out the importance of them to the civilization and how they contributed to the survival of the people.

 During the lessons, students will have various opportunities to work within their groups doing research or working on different projects depending on the day. Students will get the opportunity to work with different maps, completing hands-on activities or using the jigsaw method to share information. For their final project, students will be creating a travel brochure about Ancient Egypt. In their brochure, they will need to include at least on topic from each theme of geography. Students will need to be creative for this project, using color and pictures for their brochure. They will be graded on a rubric that they will receive on day 1 of the unit. Students will get time to work during class on their final project, then sharing within their groups and with the whole class.

**Essential Questions**

1. How did the 5 Themes of Geography (place, location, region, relationship between places, and movement) impact Ancient Egypt?
2. What impact did the Nile River have on Ancient Egypt?
3. What are some of the important places or monuments of the Ancient Egyptian Civilization?
4. What were some of the physical features of the land around the civilization? What impact did these characteristics have on the civilization?
5. Why was the flooding of the Nile River important to the Nile River Civilization?
6. What were hieroglyphics? What was the importance of the Rosetta Stone?
7. What were the pyramids and what importance did they have to the Nile River Civilization?
8. What are some examples of the important gods to Ancient Egypt?
9. Why did the Ancient Egyptians mummify their pharaohs and other important people?

**Standards**

Social Studies Standards

* Regions and People of the Eastern Hemisphere: Geography: Early Civilizations- 2. 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. The cultural practices and products of these early civilizations can be used to help understand the Eastern Hemisphere today.
* Regions and People of the Eastern Hemisphere: Geography: Spatial Thinking and Skills: 3.Globes and other geographic tools can be used to gather, process and report information about people, places and environments. Cartographers decide which information to include and how it is displayed.
* Regions and People of the Eastern Hemisphere: Geography: Spatial Thinking and Skills: 4. Latitude and longitude can be used to identify absolute location.
* Regions and People of the Eastern Hemisphere: Geography: Places and Regions-5. Regions can be determined, classified and compared using various criteria (e.g., landform, climate, population, cultural, or economic).
* Regions and People of the Eastern Hemisphere: Geography: Human Systems-6. Variations among physical environments within the Eastern Hemisphere influence human activities. Human activities also alter the physical environment.

Language Arts Standards

* Reading: Informational Text-Key Ideas and Details: 1. Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
* Reading: Informational Text-Key Ideas and Details: 7. Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.

**Objectives**

Day 1 Objectives:

The student will be able to:

* Define and identify the 5 Themes of Geography
* Describe some of the important aspects/parts from the Nile River Civilization (Ancient Egypt)

Day 2 Objectives:

The student will be able to:

* Locate different cities and monuments on a map of Egypt
* Describe the importance of different cities and monuments in Ancient Egypt

Day 3 Objectives:

The student will be able to:

* Locate different areas of the land on a blank map of Egypt
* Discuss how the land affected the civilization

Day 4 Objectives:

The student will be able to:

* Explain the impact of the Nile River on the Nile River Civilization
* Create a model of the Nile River

Day 5 Objectives:

The student will be able to:

* Write different words using hieroglyphics
* Explain what hieroglyphics are and the importance of the Rosetta Stone and other important parts about hieroglyphics

Day 6 Objectives:

The student will be able to:

* Explain the importance of the gods, the pyramids, and mummies to Ancient Egypt
* Demonstrate their understanding of their topic by sharing with other students using the jigsaw method

Day 7 and 8 Objectives

The student will be able to:

* Explain the different 5 Themes of Geography and the different concepts that were discussed during the weeks lessons
* Demonstrate their understanding of the different concepts by creating a travel brochure