

Lesson Plan Title: Knowing your Family

Developed by: Jeff Peterson (2nd grade team at Wilshire Park)

Discipline / Subject: Language Arts

Topic: Genealogy

Grade Level: 2-8

Resources / References / Materials Teacher Needs:

- Knowing your family project sheet
- Project checklist

Lesson Summary:

Many, but not all, of the mushers that run in the Junior Iditarod come from families that have either Iditarod experience or dog racing experience. The lesson starts with a look at the Junior Iditarod mushing field. Students will notice some similarities in last names with mushers in the Iditarod. A discussion about family and a family's history will take place after the recognition of names in the Junior iditarod. This lesson/project provides students with an opportunity to look back at their family history. There are so many ways in which to learn about a person's family history. The project that is given to students allows them to choose how they want to learn about their family. Each child will select how he/she will learn about his/her family. The lesson concludes with sharing of each student's project.

Standards Addressed: (Local, State, or National)

1. Local and family history

Learning objectives:

1. Students will learn their family's history as they prepare their project.
2. Students will demonstrate the ability to complete an open ended project and manage their time.

Method of Assessment

- Family project
- Presentation of project

Procedural Activities

1. Look at Junior Iditarod Mushing field. This should serve as a springboard for a discussion on family and history and Genealogy.
2. Brainstorm ideas on ways to learn about family history.
 - Primary (interviews) vs. secondary (photographs) sources
 - Internet
3. Give students the project, “Knowing your Family”, and read/discuss each option for the project.
4. Go through a sample checklist with students on one of the possible options, so they understand how the checklist will ensure that all parts of the project are completed.
5. Make sure all parental/guardian forms are turned in to ensure parental knowledge of the project.
6. Students present and share projects.

Materials Students Need:

- “Knowing your family” project options sheet
- “Project Checklist”

Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning

- Internet
- Digital camera/camcorder

Other Information

- The project obviously requires parental/guardian support. Modifications may need to be made according to classroom makeup.

Modifications for special learners/ Enrichment Opportunities

- This open-ended project allows for learners to select a project that best meets their learning style.
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Project Checklist
Project # _____

Name _____

- _____ **My project is done on time.**
- _____ **My poster(s) is /are large enough to be read from a distance.**
- _____ **My words are highlighted or traced over with a dark marker to make them legible from a distance.**
- _____ **I checked spelling. My handwriting is neat.**
- _____ **I labeled pictures or graphics so others can tell who or what it is.**
- _____ **I practiced my presentation and rehearsed with my family.**