



University of South Carolina Aiken
 471 University Parkway
 Aiken, South Carolina 29801
 803-641-3313

Unit Plan Overview for Interdisciplinary Traveling Trunk

Title of Unit: James Matthews Legare: Poet and Inventor Grade 6 Duration: 3 weeks
 Developed by: Tayler Rodgers
 Magellan Scholar Program Mentor: Dr. Thomas Mack

South Carolina Academic Standards for two or more content areas:

ELA (CCSS) 6.RL.1, 6.RL.4, 6.RL.5 6.RI.4 6.L.4, 6.L.5 6.W.2 6.SL.5	Science 6-1.4 6-2.2, 6-2.5 6-8.1, 8.2, 8.7	Math	Social Studies
Summary of activities showing connections between content areas	In this unit, students in Grade 6 will explore major themes and dominant images in American Romantic poetry. They will analyze South Carolina poet James Matthews Legare’s work to uncover poetic devices and figurative language including similes, metaphors, personification, hyperbole, onomatopoeia, alliteration, stanzas, rhyme scheme, repetition, and refrain. Because James Matthews Legare invented a product called “plastic cotton,” this unit addresses 6 th grade science standards with activities related to the classification and life cycle of the cotton plant as well as the invention of the cotton gin. Legare’s invention ultimately failed, but has a fascinating history. NOTE: This TILT includes an authentic plastic cotton artifact (circa 1850) that was donated by the Charleston Museum. The text set includes single copies of several books related to Aiken County and South Carolina history, gardening, and poetry.		
Essential Questions	1. What are some major themes and dominant images in American Romantic poetry? 2. Where does cotton grow, and what does it need to thrive? 3. Why is cotton such an important crop?		
Vocabulary	Simile Metaphor Personification Hyperbole Onomatopoeia Alliteration Stanza Rhyme Scheme Repetition Refrain	Staple Length Boll Cellulose Germinate Locks Cotyledons Bur Photosynthesis True Leaves Squares Bracts Pollinate	

CE-MIST Unit Plan for Legare, Page 2 of 2

Materials	<p>LANGUAGE ARTS LESSON PLAN: "Haw Blossoms" by James Matthews Legare "Amy" by James Matthews Legare "The Book of Nature" by James Matthews Legare</p> <p>SCIENCE LESSON PLAN: What Is Cotton and How Does It Grow printout How Cotton Is Ginned And Marketed printout</p>
Activities	<p>LANGUAGE ARTS LESSON PLAN: Orta-undis Self Collection Strategy Poetry Vocabulary and the Literature Circle PowerPoint Poetry Slam</p> <p>SCIENCE LESSON PLAN: The Growth of the Cotton Plant RAFT One Act Play Multimedia Research</p>
Pre-Writing and Writing Activities	<p>LANGUAGE ARTS LESSON PLAN: Legare's Poetry Poe and Longfellow's Poetic Devices Becoming The Poet</p> <p>SCIENCE LESSON PLAN: Reading About Cotton Reading Eli Whitney That's Made of Cotton?!</p>
Literature Circle Novels (4 copies of each)	<p>Poetry for Young People: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow Poetry for Young People: Edgar Allan Poe Eli Whitney The Biography Of Cotton</p>
Text Set	<p>The Rime of the Ancient Mariner and Other Poems Essential Wordsworth The Carolinas Gardener's Guide Reflections of South Carolina Conserve a Legacy Natural Lands & Waters in South Carolina That Ambitious Mr. Legaré: The Life of James M. Legaré of South Carolina Secret and Sacred: The Diaries of James Henry Hammond, a Southern Slaveholder Orta-undis and Other Poems Circling the Savannah: Cultural Landmarks of the Central Savannah River Area Hidden History of Aiken County</p>