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Unit Plan Overview for Traveling Interdisciplinary Literacy Trunk

Title of Unit: The Great Wall of China Grade Level: 6 Duration: 3 weeks

Developed by: Norma Jean Rockwell and Susan Hammond

Aiken Writing Project Summer Institute Teacher/Consultant: Norma Jean Rockwell and Susan Hammond

Alignment with Common Core and/or South Carolina Academic Standards for two or more content areas:

Science	Math (CCSS)	ELA (CCSS)	Social Studies
6.1 Scientific Inquiry	6.EE.1, 6. EE.2a., b., c. 6.EE.5, 6., 7.	6.RL.1, 6-RI.2 6.L.4 6.W.2	6-1.3 Compare...including the evolution of written language, government, trade...

Connections to Exploratories:

Art	Music	Technology	PE
Contributions of Ancient Chinese to modern art: calligraphy, painting	Contributions of Ancient Chinese to modern music.	Research Great Wall and Ancient Chinese life through websites, including www.travelchinaguide.com/china_gr eat_wall	Research/demonstrate traditional Chinese dance.
Summary of activities showing connections between content areas	In this unit, sixth graders will explore Essential Questions such as, Why did ancient Chinese civilizations grow along the Yellow River? How did Emperor Qin defend China from other countries? How did the ancient Chinese construct the Great Wall? Why is the Great Wall of China visible from space? The students will use maps and actual measurements of remaining structures of the Great Wall to calculate scaled proportions. They will research the types of tools and simple machines used by peasants to build the Great Wall, and then build their own models using K-Nex and modeling clay. They will also work with Chinese tangrams; learn about contributions of the ancient Chinese to modern art; create comic strips using Chinese calligraphy; and perform traditional Chinese dances. They will compare ancient Chinese homes, transportation, dress, family life, and celebrations to modern day South Carolina. This unit includes literature circle books and 30 copies of <i>Ancient China: Kids Discover</i> , as well as a traditional Chinese peasant dress and hat for the teacher to wear!		
Essential Questions	Why did ancient Chinese civilizations grow along the Yellow River? How are Chinese philosophies similar to Judo/Christian philosophies? How did Emperor Qin defend China from other countries? How did the ancient Chinese construct the Great Wall? What achievements of the ancient Chinese do we continue to enjoy? Why is the Great Wall of China visible from space?		

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<p>Pre-Writing and Writing Activities</p>	<p>T-Chart of vocabulary words Literature Circle: 6 roles/small groups Achievement poster Journal writing Picture book illustrations/paragraphs Project reflection</p>
<p>Instructional Strategies</p> <p>http://olc.spsd.sk.ca/DE/PD/instr/index.html</p>	<p>Pre-Reading: Establish a purpose for reading through prediction making, vocabulary introduction, or discuss ideas that will provide the students with the background knowledge required for the text.</p> <p>Reflective Problem Solving: Small groups define the problem, analyze the problem, establish the criteria for evaluating solutions, propose solutions and take action.</p> <p>Experimental: experience activity, record observations, analyze activity, and apply conclusions.</p> <p>Independent Study: Internet research-complete concept map, independent reading-complete Literature Role</p> <p>Interactive: Discussions and sharing among students. Students develop social skills and abilities, organize their thoughts, and develop rational arguments.</p>
<p>Accommodations, Modalities of Learning, Differentiating Instruction</p>	<p>Collaborative small groups are designed to accommodate and encourage all learning styles and levels of learning. Consideration of visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learning styles designed the activities. A variety of leveled books is provided: lower level books are used as Read-Alouds.</p>
<p>Text Set (This might include children’s literature, magazines, films, maps, brochures, websites, and other resources)</p>	<p><i>Piece=Portion:Fractions=Decimals=Percents</i> <i>Measuring Penny</i> <i>Newton and Me</i> Kids Discover: <i>Ancient China</i> www.travelchinaguide.com/china_great_wall Six Simple Machines, animated at M.I.T: www.youtube.com/watch?v=L_typfApyVk www.edheads.org/activities/simple-machines/ www.chinahighlights.com/video/mutianyu-great-wall.htm</p>
<p>Other Materials</p>	<p>K’Nex Intro To Simple Machines: Levers & Pulleys K’Nex Intro To Simple Machines: Wheels, Axles & Inclined Planes Graph paper Rulers Modeling clay Spring scales Yard sticks</p>

Attached: Daily Lesson Plans