

Title:

Winter Count: an Introduction (Making a Class “Week Count” *oko iyawapi*)

Grade Level

Grade 4

Theme

The theme of these lessons is to create a class week count to depict events that happen within the classroom or on the school grounds.

Duration

Lesson 1 and 2 will last approximately one week each.

Goals

Lesson 1: The goal is for students to experience winter counts from the Smithsonian Winter Count.

Lesson 2: The goal is for students to learn the correct name for the job they hold for the creating of the weekly count and to participate in the creation of the *oko iyawapi* (week count)

Objectives

Lesson 1: The students will view and experience original winter counts from historical sites.

Lesson 2: The students will learn the correct terms in the Lakota and English for use in the cooperative learning groups. The students will be divided into groups of three and will choose a job card. Students will then go to their groups and begin working on the class *oko iyawapi* or “week count”.

South Dakota Standards

World Languages: 1.1; 1.2; 1.3

Listening, Viewing, and Speaking: 1.1; 1.2; 1.3

US History: 1.1

Cultural Concept

The concept for these lessons is to link Lakota history and how the Lakota depicted the event to depicting school/class events to keep track of important events that happen during the week.

Cultural Background

Winter counts are accurate accounts of historical events that happened during the life of the Lakota. They are recorded on skins, hides, cloth, or carved in wood. The winter count is used as a calendar in the Lakota culture.

Student Activities

- Break into groups of three
- Choose a card that has the job name and job description on it
- Discuss what each job does and the importance to the group
- Establish rules that each group will follow as they look for events that are to be put on the week count

- Go over the rubrics for grading class participation and project

Resources

- Note cards that have the job names, the job description, and the Lakota job name and pronunciation of the job name.
- Writing and art supplies
- Internet, Smithsonian Winter Count on line exhibit, books and libraries

Assessment

Rubric for participation and completion of week count to be displayed in the classroom.

4- Stays on task within group, follows rules for choosing event, records events accurately, and tells story events with accuracy, draws glyph that expresses event.

3- Stays on task most of the time and follows the rest of the rubric 4.

2- Needs to be reminded to keep working

1-no work being done

0-relieved of job and banished to the principal's office.

Rubric for the scribe

4-Uses complete sentences and sentence structure

3-Sometimes uses complete sentences and sentence structure

2-Some complete sentences

1-No complete sentences has only phrases

0-No work shown

Rubric for the speaker

2-Speaks clearly and listens carefully and can accurately tell the story.

1-Some-what speaks clearly and retells the story leaving out many of the details

0-Refuses to tell the story

Rubric for the artist

2- Creates a glyph that represents the activity

1-Glyph doesn't fit the event

0-No glyph to place on weekly count

Words for the cards

Scribe – *wowapikagawicasa* – wo-wah-pe-kahah-we-chan-shan: The scribe is responsible for writing down the event that was chosen as the important event for the week.

Speaker – *woyakawicasa* –wo-yah-ka-we-chah-shah: The speaker is responsible for telling the class about the event that was chosen.

Artist – *owawicasa*- o-wah-we-chah-shah: The artist is responsible for creating a glyph for the event that is to be put on the week count.

References

National Museum of Natural History. Smithsonian Institution, National Anthropological Archives. <http://wintercounts.si.edu/>

Library of Congress. Battiste Good, a Brule Dakota living at Rosebud Agency in South Dakota. <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trm054.html>

State Historical Society of North Dakota

http://history.nd.gov/textbook/unit3_1_highdog_html

Buechel Museum. Waniyetu Yawapi: Lakota winter counts

<http://www.sfmmissionmuseum.org/exhibits/wintercounts/index.html>

Thornton, Russell and Candace S. Greene. (2007) *The Year the Stars Fell*. Lincoln, NE:
University of Nebraska Press.

Developer

Rhonda Prince

Hill City Elementary

PO Box 659

Hill City, SD 57745

(605) 574-3015

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