

Name: Betsy Davis

Grade Level and Subject Area: 2nd Grade Social Studies

Project Based Learning Activity: What is there to do in our community for kids?

Goals: In this PBL students will contribute to a webpage with a PowerPoint highlighting their favorite place to visit in Greenfield. Our ultimate goal will be to have the webpage incorporated into the City of Greenfield's Website. This would be a kid friendly place for others to see what kids like about our community.

Content Standards:

State Social Studies: 2.4

Students will describe how people in a community use productive resources, create a variety of businesses and industries, specialize in different types of jobs, and depend on each other to supply goods and services.

State Language Arts: WRITING: Processes and Features 2.4

Students write clear sentences and paragraphs that develop a central idea. Students progress through the stages of the writing process, including prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing multiple drafts.

Technology Standards: Nets for students 2007:

1. Creativity and Innovation

Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge, and develop innovative products and processes using technology.

2. Communication and Collaboration

Students use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others.

3. Research and Information Fluency

Students apply digital tools to gather, evaluate, and use information.

5. Digital Citizenship

Students understand human, cultural, and societal issues related to technology and practice legal and ethical behavior.

6. Technology Operations and Concepts

Students demonstrate a sound understanding of technology concepts, systems, and operations.

Performance Objectives:

1. Students will chose their favorite place in the community of Greenfield.
2. Students will use the Super 3 to help them Plan, Do, Review this project.
3. Students will incorporate the following information into a PowerPoint: Address, Phone Number, paragraph about the place explaining why it is favored, add some kind of photo, video, or clip art to visually represent the favorite place. If the place has a website, hyperlink it somewhere in the PPT.
4. Students will work in groups to edit and revise the PPT.
5. Students will present their PPT to the class.

Project Planning: Upon completion of our Community Unit in Social Studies, I will introduce this PBL Activity. I will use a PowerPoint to introduce the assignment and show my son's example to the students. I will also introduce my students to the "Super 3" at this time to help them "Plan, Do, and Review" their PowerPoint Project. Here is a link to help teach the kids the Super 3 system:

<http://voicethread.com/share/78284/>. The project itself will be an individual assignment, but the students will work in collaborative groups to help each other with the revision of the writing and with technical issues.

Checklist for Project:

- ✓ Name of Your Favorite Place
- ✓ Address
- ✓ Phone Number
- ✓ A paragraph about the place.
- ✓ Explain why you like it.
- ✓ Some kind of photo, video, or clip art to visually represent your favorite place.

Story Board: Our opening page will be where all of the kids' places are listed based on what kind of service their favorite place provides. The visitor can click on the students' name or place to enter into the PowerPoint. In the PowerPoint the visitor can click through the slide show or click on the hyperlinks to visit the place's website or whatever else the student has added to the PowerPoint.

Production: <http://mrsdavis.yolasite.com/community-project.php>

Reflection:

This project is exciting and overwhelming all at the same time. My students are in second grade and have had very little computer experience, so this will be a huge project for them. The upcoming class also has several behavior issues, which makes classroom management for projects like this "interesting". Hopefully the kids will be so excited about the possibilities of this project the management issues will be low key.

The key will be to provide good planning and preparation. I believe the Super 3 will help a lot. Looking at some of the other projects proposed by my classmates makes this project seem too simple, but it will be pretty complex for my second graders. I feel they will be able to complete the project, and do a nice job. This would be a good time to have a volunteer or two handy to help answer some basic PPT questions.

Putting all of my Multimedia on my webpage seemed to be the easiest way to get it all to you. Once I have all of the actual student projects I'll have the student's name and their place's name listed and linked to the student's PPT. I just went to a Moodle Workshop this past Wednesday and learned

how I could build this same project in Moodle and make new windows open for each time you open a link...I really like that feature especially for my students.

I believe this project and other student authored projects provide meaningful learning experiences, because it gives the student a chance to get creative and have some freedom in showing what they know. A fill in the blank test over communities doesn't provide personal ownership of learning.

As I mentioned earlier...my students will be coming to me with very little computer experience. I will be doing lots of modeling before and during this project. I will need some parent volunteers or extra Instructional Assistance especially in the early days of this project. Patience, Patience, Patience will be a big factor. Some students with more computer experience may take off and be able to assist their peers as well. I like the opportunities of this project for kids to do their own thing. The only limits are imagination and technical know how.

Tools: options of hypertext, graphics, photos, video, sound, and use of the internet to gather information and display our final project

Multimedia: PowerPoint, Yola

Credits:

The City of Greenfield <http://www.greenfieldin.org>

That Fun Place <http://www.thatfunplace.com/Default.htm>

The Super 3 <http://voicethread.com/share/78284/>