

Voyage of the Kintyre: A Virtual Journey

Technology is a powerful tool for motivating student communication with the broader community. This project employed email and the World Wide Web as a means of communicating with two young men exploring a region and learning about that region.

Curriculum/State Standard

Understands the concept of regions, knows the characteristics of regions

Demonstrates competence in speaking and listening as tools for learning; listens and responds in a variety of media

Overview

This project used the framework of a sailing trip from Massachusetts to the Caribbean to learn about needs and means of travel as well as characteristics of different regions. Our students met the two young men traveling by ship and kept up a virtual communication with them as they followed them through their journey.

Objectives

- The student will use travel as a real life connection to the study of weather, environment, geography, and regions of the world.
- The student will interact with the crew of the Kintyre through email and digital photography in order to understand travel and geography.

Materials

Books, videos, art materials, food, technology -Internet connections

Readiness Activity

Students developed a team handbook by identifying team members (themselves and the Kintyre crew). They introduced themselves to each other and met the Kintyre crew personally as they passed through the D. C. area. They also included in their handbook projected travel issues which the ship crew might face and wrote about how these problems could be resolved by prior planning.

Continued on the back...

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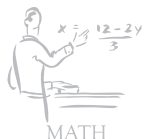
GRADE LEVEL



ARTS



LANGUAGE



MATH

Misc

MISCELLANEOUS



SCIENCE



HISTORY



SOCIAL STUDIES

4

MONTHS

\$700

TOTAL BUDGET

“Voyage of the Kintyre” project continued...

Strategies/Activities

A wide variety of activities were employed in this project. These included:

- mapping the trip of the Kintyre
- mapping weather patterns and identifying the impact of weather on travel through the creation of a television style weather news broadcast
- comparing temperature and climate of Massachusetts, D. C., and the Caribbean
- reading and understanding, acting out and performing legends of the sea, including stories of piracy
- constructing a post card using digital photography
- designing and constructing a model sailing ship
- exploring the wind as a source of energy
- exploring the culture of the Caribbean through literature, poetry, food, customs, etc., and developing a travel brochure of the Caribbean
- adopting a sea critter and constructing a "creature feature"

Culminating Activity

The culminating activity was transforming our classroom into the Caribbean in order to host students from other classrooms and teach them what we learned. All aspects of Caribbean life and culture were presented through dress, food, writings, artwork, and other representations.

Evaluation

Students are evaluated using the strategy of performance-based evaluation - the quality and workmanship of guides, handbooks, writings, artwork, etc. Authentic evaluations are based upon the quality of interaction with the crew in accordance with standards for communication. Rubrics assist this evaluation strategy.