Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner

Disseminator
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Goals and Objectives

Through this program, *Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner*, students master their reading and researching skills. In this interdisciplinary unit, students use the Research Process Model to gather information on famous Americans. A research report is created for one class. As an additional assessment, students create place settings and flatware for a dinner party where the motif for the dinnerware reflects the life and interests of the famous American.

Students will be directed in the Research Process Model (RPM) method of researching and compiling information from encyclopedias, books, Internet sites, and other informational sources. The research and reference skills help prepare the students for the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test in reading.

Objectives

Students will...
- research famous Americans.
- learn about diverse cultures.
- fabricate an invitation for a dinner party.
- design dinnerware and flatware in a motif reflecting the life and contributions of a famous American.

Goals/ Sunshine State Standards

Students will...
- use the Research Process Model (RPM) to locate information.
- logically sequence information.
- write notes and outlines that reflect comprehension of grade level content.
- proofread writing to correct convention errors in mechanics, usage, and punctuation, using dictionaries, handbooks, and other resources, including teacher or peers, as appropriate.
- use electronic technology appropriate to writing tasks to create, revise, retrieve, and verify information.
Course Outline

The Research Process Model (RPM) is reviewed before taking students to the media center to complete research.

Working outline - Break the topic into areas to explore. Suggest topics the students should include such as childhood, family life, education, discoveries, contributions, awards, timeline of events etc. Remind them to modify the outline by adding and deleting information.

Note cards are integral organizational tools that allow students to collect and arrange information. Quotations, statistics, excerpts and summaries all follow the same format. Each time a new article is used the letter of the bib card and note changes.

Organizing and sorting note cards - Rearrange note cards according to topic and subtopic.

Write a final outline from the final sort. Delete unused categories from the outline. Include any additional information.

Students are taken to the media center to select an autobiography or biography based on a famous American. After four days of independent research, Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner, begins since students should now be ready to identify the dream of the person and the strategies that helped them to achieve that dream.
The first part is to create a guest list for dinner. The students are limited to four individuals who were instrumental in the famous American's life (i.e. parents, teachers, friends). A short description of each guest and the reasons they were invited is the first written assignment.

With the guest list complete, an invitation must be designed to invite these 'friends' to help your person celebrate his /her accomplishment(s).

It's A Party!

What would a dinner party be without food? Next plan a menu for the guests. Consult various ethnic cookbooks, decide what you would prepare and consider giving each dish a name related to your (auto)biography.

Finally, create a sample place setting for your dinner party. Design a place mat, china pattern, cup and silverware decorations reflecting the person's life and accomplishments.
**Note card**

The note card/ ‘source’ card is just a letter, no number. A source can be a book, Internet site, encyclopedia etc. Each time you get information from a new place (source) give it a new letter A B C etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Just place ONE fact on each card. You will use approximately 100 cards for this. Do not write on the back. That’s right – only ONE fact.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A 1</th>
<th>A 2</th>
<th>A 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born in 1901 on a farm in Ohio</td>
<td>Attended Harvard 1920-26</td>
<td>Married Sue Gorge in 1930</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When you have compiled all the information, go back and identify where it will fit on the outline. Write this above the pink line,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Childhood A 1</th>
<th>Education A 2</th>
<th>Family Life A 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Born 1901 on a farm in Ohio</td>
<td>Attended Harvard 1920-1926</td>
<td>Married Sue Gorge in 1930</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Place all of the cards with the same heading in one pile. Sort all your cards. You should now be able to tell where you need to fill in information.

Remember, if you were unable to find some information in a topic you have on your original outline; that is normal.

Go back and revise the outline. Chances are you found facts you never thought to look for at first. Now is the time to revise your original outline.
Social Studies and Language Arts will be working together for the research report. As your language arts teacher, I will help to walk you through the Research Process Model (RPM).

For Language Arts you will be held accountable for three sections of the process:
- Outline
- Note cards
- Bibliographic format

A working outline is a roadmap to success. The outline charts exactly what you plan to address in your paper. Break your topic into areas you might want to explore. As you research, you will find parts of your paper will change. This is normal. Once you actually begin to find information, you will modify the outline by adding and deleting information.

Note cards are integral organizational tools that allow students to collect and arrange information. There are four types of notes you will write — quotations, statistics, excerpts and summaries. All of these will follow the same format.
- Do not write in the back of the cards.
- Write a capital letter in the upper right hand corner of the card above the pink line. This letter matches the bibliography (bib) card of the source you used.
- After the letter, write a number. This tells how many notes you have taken from that source.
- On the bottom right corner of the card, write the page # from where you copied the information.
- Start taking notes. Write only one thought, statistic or quote per card.
- When you have finished taking notes, write the topic and subtopic above the pink line on the left. This information comes from your working outline.

*Each time you read an article the letter of the bib card and notes changes.
Organizing and sorting your note cards comes next. At this point the cards are stacked according to bibliography cards. Now you need to rearrange them according to topic and subtopic.

Look at the upper left-hand corner where you have written the topic and subtopic. This came from your working outline. Find all the cards that share the same topic, rubber band them together and put them aside. Do this for all the cards.

Now go back and rearrange each of these piles. Take one pile at a time. Place all the same categories together like education, childhood, and discoveries. Now you are ready to place these piles in some sort of logical order. This is the beginning of your rough draft and paragraph structure.

Write a final outline from the final sort. Your original outline was written before you began to research. Now you realize some of the information you thought you would find does not exist. You will need to delete these categories from your outline. However, you probably found information that you had not anticipated finding and you will need to add these categories to your outline.

Place all of the bibliography cards into one pile in alphabetical order. Your bibliography requires a minimum of four (4) sources. Only two (2) may be Internet sources. If you use an online encyclopedia, do not use one in book form.
Famous American Outline

Name __________________________________________

I. Childhood
   a.
   b.

II. Family Life
   a.
   b.

III. Ethnic background

IV. Education
   a.
      1.
      2.
   b.
      1.
      2.

V. Contributions
   a.
      1.
      2.
   b.
      1.
      2.

VI. Awards

VII. Additional Contributions

VIII. Timeline

IX. Miscellaneous

X. Bibliography
The Dinner Party

Create a guest list of four individuals who were instrumental in the famous American’s life (i.e. parents, teachers, friends). A short description of each guest and the reasons they were invited is the first written assignment.

Guest 1 -
Reasons they are invited

Guest 2 -
Reasons they are invited

Guest 3 -
Reasons they are invited

Guest 4 -
Reasons they are invited
The Invitation
Fabricate an invitation. Invite people to help your person celebrate his or her accomplishment(s). Look over your notes to find ideas.

Who is the party for?

What are the reasons for the party?

Where will the festivities be held?

When will it take place?

Why is there a need to celebrate?

How will you decorate the invitation?
**The Food**
Describe a meal that your person would enjoy. Consider the ethnic background, childhood and family information you discovered while researching. Think about what you could name the meal? The salad or dessert?

**The Place Setting**
Finally create a sample place setting for your dinner party. Design a place mat, china pattern, cup and silverware decorations reflecting the famous person's life and accomplishments. Use the information you gathered in your research.

Family

Education

Accomplishments

Contributions

Awards

Important places

Miscellaneous information
As you pass through the Educational Fair today, you will assume the role of judge. Carefully examine the place settings and choose your top three. (Good sportsmanship dictates that you may not select your own work.) Look for the following qualities:

1. Famous American’s name is clearly identified.
2. Mention of event(s) that made the person famous.
3. Invited guests make sense.
4. Invitation includes the ’The five W’s.’
5. Menu shows appetizer, soup, salad, entrée and dessert.
6. Dinnerware reflects the person’s life and accomplishments.
7. Original means nothing is store bought. Only pictures may be copies.
8. Creativity includes at least eight details about the individual.
9. Neatness makes it easy to read.
10. Spelling means no errors.

1st Place -
Reasons:

2nd Place -
Reasons:

3rd Place -
Reasons:

Best of Class -
Reasons:
Evaluation and Student Assessment

Students are asked to synthesize the information they read about their famous American, so the evaluation is to be conducted on different levels. Since the entire project is completed in class, teacher observation of time management and the appropriateness of the place setting as it relates to their person is the first test. Secondly, the basic skills of incorporating Who, What, Where, When and Why in the invitations will be assessed. The final grading instrument of Guess Who's Coming to Dinner is a student assessment completed at an Educational Fair. All the place settings are displayed. Students are required to evaluate each setting and choose the "Best of Class".

Resource list / Materials
Access to Media Center
Computers - Internet access and word processing software
MLA format
Biographies of famous scientist
Encyclopedia

Publix
paper plates, napkins
place mats, doily
plastic forks, knives and spoons
paper bags

Oriental Trading
chenille stems wire art glitter glue
stickers feathers stamp/ stamp pads
foam pieces scissors colored markers/ pencils
googly eyes glue tissue paper
beads puff paint fabric
Bibliography

Check your media center for additional titles - individual and anthologies.


*Biography Today: Profiles of People of Interest to Young Readers (Author Series. Vol. 4)* Omnigraphics (July 1, 1995) ISBN 0780800141 $39.00

*Biography Today Scientists and Inventors: Profiles of People of Interest to Young Readers (Biography Today Scientists and Inventors Series)* Omnigraphics (January 1, 2001) ISBN 0780804155 $39.00


Native Americans
http://www.factmonster.com/spot/aihmbioaz.html

African Americans
http://www.factmonster.com/spot/afroambios.html

Hispanic Americans
http://www.factmonster.com/spot/hhmbio7.html

Asian American
http://www.factmonster.com/spot/apahmfirsts.html

Famous Women of Past and Present
http://www.distinguishedwomen.com/alphabet/alphabet.html