

Great Classroom Idea



Grade level: K-8

Subject (if applicable): Social Studies

Please check all that apply:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> lesson plan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> project-based teaching/activity idea |
| <input type="checkbox"/> technology integration idea | <input type="checkbox"/> graphic organizer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> integration of faith and learning idea | <input type="checkbox"/> webquest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> classroom management technique | <input type="checkbox"/> virtual field trip |
| <input type="checkbox"/> devotional | <input type="checkbox"/> bulletin board idea |
| <input type="checkbox"/> science demo or experiment | <input type="checkbox"/> critical thinking strategy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> assessment tool | <input type="checkbox"/> original classroom game |
| <input type="checkbox"/> relationship-building idea | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ |

Description: (attach supplementary materials if needed)

How do you keep your students motivated until the end of the year? We all know that toward the end of the school year, students experience year-end shut down. I was looking for a way to keep my students going, while they were still learning.

We yearly put on a Social Studies fair, or cultural fair. Much like a science fair the students prepare a project to show. For younger students, K-1, they participate in a group project, local community. This can include local maps, safety rules, community resources, tourism, industry, home and school. Grades 2-4 study provinces and first nation communities. They look at population, capital city, government, industry, tourism, natural resources, culture, and things that make the area special. Grades 5+6 choose a modern country, looking for culture, government, population, industry, resources, language, national symbols, cities, capital, food, costume, tourism, etc. Grades 7+8 follow a similar plan but are looking to ancient civilizations and countries. Students prepare food to share with guests, often dress in costume, share music, colouring pages, etc. We incorporate this into our final concert and awards ceremony. The students act as experts on their topic and people come and ask them questions.

This has become so popular that my students start asking and planning for this project in September. Inviting community has proven to be a real boost to community perception about our school program.

Submitted by: David Parker

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