

Chester the Nester Laid an Egg

Students learn about the bald eagle.

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Grade Level	1st
Duration	1-2 class periods

National Geography Standards

ELEMENT ONE: THE WORLD IN SPATIAL TERMS

1. How to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective.

ELEMENT TWO: PEOPLE AND PLACES

4. The physical and human characteristics of places.

Arizona Geography Strand

Strand 4 Geography

Concept 1: The World in Spatial Terms

PO 2. Identify characteristics of maps and globes:

- compass rose
- symbols
- map key/legend

Concept 2: Places and Regions

PO 3. Recognize through images of content studied (e.g., Egypt, Arizona, local community) that places have distinct characteristics

Other Arizona Standards

Strand 1 American History

Concept 3: Exploration and Colonization

PO 4. Recognize that the United States began as the Thirteen Colonies ruled by England.

Concept 4: Revolution and New Nation

PO 2. Retell stories to describe past events, people, and places.

Strand 3 Civics/Government

Concept 1: Foundations of Government

PO 1. Identify national symbols and monuments that represent American democracy and values:

- American flag
- Bald Eagle
- Statue of Liberty
- White House
- Washington Monument

ELA Common Core Standards

Reading

Informational Text

Key Ideas and Details

1.RL.1 Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

Writing

Language

Conventions of Standard English

1.L.1 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

- Print all upper- and lowercase letters.
- Use common, proper, and possessive nouns.
- Use singular and plural nouns with matching verbs in basic sentences (e.g., He hops; we hop).
- Use personal, possessive, and indefinite pronouns (e.g., I, me, my; they, them, their; anyone, everything).
- Use verbs to convey a sense of

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- f. past, present, and future
- f. Use frequently occurring adjectives.
- g. Use frequently occurring conjunctions (e.g., and, but, or, so, because).
- h. Use determiners (e.g., articles, demonstratives).

Overview

After the Revolutionary War, the Founding Fathers” of our country met in Philadelphia to create a national Constitution, a document of rights and responsibilities for our country, which would set us onto the path of path of becoming the United States of America.

Purpose

In this lesson students will learn, through the reading of a fictional story, how the Bald Eagle reflects characteristics that also represent this country.

Materials

- Chester the Nester Laid an Egg Power Point
- The American Bald Eagle worksheet and answer key
- Images or actual symbols to show students (stop sign, peace symbol, cross, women and men restroom icons, etc.)
- American Colonies maps (labeled and unlabeled)
- Colored pencils for map work
- Copy of the Constitution

Objectives

The student will be able to:

1. Understand the difference between a true story and historical fiction
2. Recognize the 13 colonies on a map
3. Describe the attributes of the American bald eagle as a symbol

Procedures

SESSION ONE

1. Anticipatory Set: Ask, “What does the word symbol mean?” Have students share

answers. Then explain a symbol represents something. Show a few images or actual symbols. Again, have students share answers. Then share an image of the bald eagle by showing the first slide of the Power Point. Ask, “Why do you suppose the bald eagle is a symbol and why would he be the symbol for our country?”

2. Continue the lesson by reading the short story on the Power Point called “Chester the Nester Laid an Egg.”
3. Ask students if they think this is a true story? Why or why not. Inform students that this is a “fictional” story about Chester.
4. Ask the students if they have any idea what “fiction” means. (They should come up with some version of make believe.) Then ask what part of the story is fiction? (Chester laying an egg, there was a father eagle called Chester, the baby flew around Philadelphia, etc.)
5. Is some of the information in the story true? (our country began with Founding Fathers creating a Constitution, the correct years of our country beginning, the bald eagle is the national symbol, etc.) If so, then this is called “historical fiction.” Historical fiction is a pretend story based on true events. In this story, the Founding Fathers and the Constitution are true events that happened in Philadelphia.
6. Read the story again. Next have the students identify characteristics of the bald eagle that are like our American government. List these on the board. (strong, fearless, powerful, large, command attention, leader, grows bigger, important, brave)
7. Distribute the writing exercise. The students are to use the words in the word box to fill in the blanks. Remind students

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to follow the conventions of proper letter shape, spelling, and capitalization.

SESSION TWO

8. Distribute the unlabeled map of the American colonies and colored pencils to each student. Tell students how we won a war against England to become our own country rather than belong to England. Project the labeled map of the 13 colonies. Talk about the colonies and how they were divided into 3 regions. Have them look at the legend and figure out where the regions would be. Students will color the three areas and fill in the legend. Then they will circle the title with red colored pencil, the legend area with a green colored pencil, and the compass rose with the orange colored pencil.

Assessment

Social Studies and Reading:

Students will correctly fill in 4 of the 6 statements on the writing page in order to obtain mastery.

Students will accurately color and circle on the American Colonies map. Mastery will be considered all 3 areas circled and colored correctly.

Writing:

Students will capitalize all proper nouns and spell the words correctly. Mastery will be considered 80% (6 blanks) or higher.

Extensions

Go to the National Archives and the Constitution website. Just viewing and talking about it for this age group is a good extension

Sources

Hutchinson, Patricia. "Chester the Nester Laid an Egg." Arizona Geographic Alliance. 2012.

Images of eagles from: The Open Clipart Library (OCAL) is the largest collaborative community that creates, shares and remixes clipart. All clipart is released to the public domain and may be used in any project for free with no restrictions.

Constitution: www.archives.gov/nae/visit/

Founding Fathers:

http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/charters_of_freedom_zoom_pages/charters_of_freedom_zoom_6.2.1.html