Cassie Ripley

The Aztec Civilization

Subject Area: Social Studies Grade Level: 5

Learning Standards: English Language Arts & Literacy

***SL. 5. 4.*** *Report on a topic including appropriate facts and descriptive details to support main ideas*

***SL. 5. 5.*** *Include multimedia components and visual displays in presentations to support the main ideas or themes*

***W. 5. 4.*** *Produce clear and coherent writing in which is appropriate to task, purpose and audience.*

|  |
| --- |
| **Task Description:** The PBS Network is a strong advocate for family life and education in our society today. The producers of PBS have asked your class to gather research and aspects of the Aztec Civilization’s family life and education views. PBS is planning a weekly program and wants to include a comparative analysis between the present family structure to those of the past (Aztec civilization.) The project will include 1) data analysis from collected research; 2) Poster; 3) a PowerPoint; and 4) Skit. Presentations will be scheduled to be recorded on November 7th, in the school’s auditorium during the class period. |
| **Direct Instruction for Whole Class:** The whole class will be involved in the following learning experiences:   * Lectures and discussions on job specifications in the Aztec culture * Readings from the texts: *What Did the Aztecs Do for Me?* and from the classroom textbook * Research from <http://www.aztec-history.com/aztec-society-family.html> * Oral presentation techniques (powerpoint) <http://memo.cgu.edu.tw/yu-yen/oral%20reports%20skills.pdf> |
| **Group Work:** Students may select their group and their task.   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Group One  Create a **graph, chart, or Venn Diagram** to present the job specifications in the Aztec culture and present day. | Group Two  Produce 2 **posters**, 1) Aztec men and women’s roles in society; 2) Norms of men and women in today’s society | Group Three  Prepare a five-eight minute **PowerPoint** presentation for the producers of PBS | Group Four  Create **a skit** that includes men and women from both cultures to be recorded that PBS can use in their program | |
| **Individual Work:** In addition to the group project, each student will complete two individual assignments:   1. Write a persuasive letter to a politic figure and Montezuma II (Tenochtitlan’s tlatoani) about the unequal job opportunities that are presented in their society. Explain the roles men and women are portrayed to play in both Aztec and present-day cultures. Is this ethical in either culture? What would you change to fix this issue? 2. Create a brochure that PBS can hand out that discusses the roles men and women play in the Aztec society and that of our own |
| **Methods of Assessment:**   1. Teacher-made quiz on the gender-specific jobs presented in the Aztec culture 2. Group Work: criteria checklist for group grade, student self-assessments, and brag sheets for individual 3. Rubric to assess persuasive letter and brochure |