

Friend of the Day

English Language Arts

Second Grade

Cindy M. Morden

PURPOSE:

It is important for us to build the classroom community. This activity gives each student the chance to be in the “spotlight” as we get to know his/her interests.

The “Friend of the Day” is allowed to use the classroom sound amplification microphone to answer questions from his/her classmates. The “Friend of the Day” calls on 6-8 friends to ask a question. As the children are engaged in this question/answer session, the teacher is creating a graphic organizer (web) with Kidspiration or Inspiration. The computer program is projected on to the Smart Board. Students are also engaged as they help format text and clipart within the graphic organizer. The teacher is also taking digital photographs of the “Friend of the Day”; these photos will be inserted into the published interview. Students are also involved as the interview is published in Microsoft PowerPoint. The Smart Board lends itself well to engaging the students’ interest.

STANDARDS:

Michigan English Language Arts

Meaning and Communication

Content Standard 3

All students will focus on meaning and communication as they listen, speak, view, read, and write in personal, social, occupational, and civic contexts.

Early Elementary

3. Read and write with developing fluency, speak confidently, listen and interact appropriately, view strategically, and represent creatively.

National Educational Technology Standards for Students

1. Basic Operations and Concepts

Use a variety of media and technology resources for directed and independent learning activities.

4. Technology Communication Tools

Use technology resources for problem solving, communication, and illustration of thoughts ideas, and stories.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Select the “Friend of the Day”. He/she will use the classroom sound amplification system when speaking to the class.

2. The "Friend of the Day" stands in front of the class. The other students think of appropriate questions to ask the "Friend of the Day". Students raise their hand and the "Friend of the Day" calls on them one at a time to ask a question. The "Friend of the Day" will answer with a complete sentence. The teacher summarizes the answer and inputs the information into the graphic organizer (web) on the computer. Kidspiration and Inspiration are recommended programs to create graphic organizers.
3. As the graphic organizer is filled with information, the "Friend of the Day" may choose clip art to accompany the ideas on the web. Using the Smart Board, the "Friend of the Day" is able to input clipart by touching the screen and dragging the artwork to the web.
4. The teacher photographs the "Friend of the Day" as he/she stands in front of the web.
5. The next step is to export the graphic organizer as a jpeg file. Create a folder on the hard drive for each student. Export the file and save it. Print out 2 copies of the web.
6. Close Kidspiration and open Microsoft PowerPoint. You will use the information from the graphic organizer to create a slide show consisting of 2 slides. Save the slideshow to the student folder on the hard drive.
7. Print out two copies of the slide show.
8. Attach the slide show and the web to a sheet of construction paper to be displayed in the classroom, or put into a class book. Send home a copy of the printed interview. Because of the personal information included in these webs, I would not post them to student web pages.

TOOLS AND RESOURCES:

Materials:

- Sound Amplification Microphone
- Smart Board/ LCD Projector
- Laptop Computer
- Digital Camera

Software:

- Kidspiration
- Microsoft PowerPoint

ASSESSMENT:

As this lesson is repeated for each member of the class, we expect the students to become more proficient with the technology. Using the Smart Board, the students are able to participate in creating the Kidspiration Web and PowerPoint show.

The oral language development is assessed as the students ask questions. We are able to listen as the students use their communication skills to ask and answer questions. The "Friend of the Day" is required to answer the question in the form of a complete sentence.

CREDITS:

Cindy Morden
Second Grade Teacher
Roosevelt Elementary School
248-865-6620
morden@westbloomfield.k12.mi.us
www.westbloomfield.k12.mi.us/roosevelt/second02/index.html

COMMENTS:

As this lesson is modeled for the students on a daily basis, they start to internalize the software programs and will be able to apply their knowledge to future projects. Using an LCD projector is ideal for presenting this lesson, if you do not have access to a projector, this lesson could be carried out in a computer lab with presenter software that is networked to the student computers---or use a scan converter to project to a television screen. Modeling is the key, use the resources that are available to you ☺ Enjoy!