



MIND MAPPING

Thinking
strategies
to enhance skills
of analysis,
creativity,
and problem
solving.

WEAVING CULTURES TOGETHER

Brief Description of the Lesson: Students will create a mind map to display celebrations in ancient cultures

SOL/POS Objective: (List number and specific objective)

SS.5.2

Acquire knowledge and understanding of world history and geography with a focus on early civilizations.

Instructional Strategy :

Cues, Questions, and Advance Organizers: Students create mind maps to organize their knowledge of cultural celebrations in ancient civilizations.

Materials: Large, unlined drawing paper; colored pencils, markers or crayons; books on ancient cultures

Enduring Understanding:

- Mind maps organize important content by making visual connections.
- Celebrations occur across cultures.

Essential Questions: (For example, *What influences your reaction to an issue or a problem?*)

- Why do people celebrate?
- What are some of the things that you and your family celebrate?
- How do other cultures celebrate special occasions?
- What special occasions were celebrated by ancient societies such as China, Greece, Rome and Egypt and how did they celebrate?

Teach and Explore Strategy: (Steps in teaching the process and exploring applications) Prior to teaching this lesson, be sure to have taught or reviewed the introductory thinking process lesson. Help focus students' thinking by reminding them of the metacognitive component of this lesson.

- Ask students, "What are some things that you and your family celebrate? What things do you do that are special when you celebrate?"
- Ancient cultures such as China, Egypt, Rome, and Greece had different traditions. Discuss what and how they celebrated.
- Students should draw a symbol which represents the word 'celebration' in the middle of their paper as the topic for their mind map. There should be at least 4 branches attached to the center to represent each of the ancient cultures. (You may wish to have them add a 5th branch for a personal celebration of their own.)
- For each branch, students will attach symbols, color, and key words to describe different cultural celebrations that they remember.
- Remind them to add as many details as possible.
- Quantity/Quality of accurate information recorded on the mind-map



MIND MAPPING

*Thinking
strategies
to enhance skills
of analysis,
creativity,
and problem
solving.*

Assessment Evidence: (Discussion, teacher observation, completed product, student reflection...)

Metacognition/ Reflection: (Discuss thinking involved and applications for using the strategy.)

- Consider other details that can be added to enhance mind maps.

Extension:

- In small groups, students could be assigned to create a short PowerPoint presentation for one of the celebrations using the information from each student's mind-map. This could then be shared with the whole class and used as a review of the ancient cultures.