

Title: Gullah Activities

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Course: Language Arts (across the curriculum)

Grade Level: Kindergarten

STANDARDS:

LANGUAGE ARTS

K: R2.1 Demonstrate understanding that every word in a text has a specific meaning.

K: R3.2 Discuss new books every day.

K: R3.3 Learn new words and new meanings and uses for familiar words.

KW2.2 Share events and tell stories through narrative writing.

K: W2.4 Produce literature and responses to literature.

K: W3.2 Increase their vocabularies and use their new vocabulary in their writing.

SOCIAL STUDIES

#1 American Heritage: Listen to and discuss stories that reflect the cultural heritage of the U.S. - Past and present, real and fiction.

#3 World Interactions: Compare stories and music of various other cultures, including African.

Math- T/T5

Science- Standard #4

Scope of Curriculum: One week

Introduction: before this particular lesson, teachers will familiarize children with Gullah, Gullah Island (video). To start this lesson teachers will give a brief discussion over the Gullah culture, including slide show done with Kenyon College and Cleveland State University. During this discussion, teachers will inform students of the many customs and practices done by these individuals, including: basket weaving, preparation of food, pottery, and quilt making.

Objective: Children will have a better overall understanding of the Gullah culture.

All activities planned will be in rotating centers.

Activity#1

- Students will use the format from “De Gullah Storybook to formulate their own counting book.
- Teachers will explain the assignment, and model together on the big chart paper.
- Chart paper, colored markers (for teachers), crayons (for children) “De Gullah Storybook” by Ron Daise, and drawing paper (for children).

- Monitor center activity
- This activity will be used to reinforce counting skills.

Activity #2

- Students will use the information discussed by teacher to make their own quilt.
- Teachers will use “Afro American Traditions and Decorative Arts” to explain the importance of quilt making. Then the teachers will model a patch of the quilt for the children. They will then explain that each patch will help make a classroom quilt.
- Colored squares of construction paper, scissors, glue, crayons, and “Afro American Traditions and Decorative Arts” by John Michael Vlach.
- Monitor center activity
- This activity reinforces eye-hand coordination, small motor skills, and gluing.

Activity#3

- Students will sit in the listening center and listen to “De Gullah Storybook” on tape recorder.
- Self-explanatory center
- After listening to the story, children will draw illustrations about the story and describe in their own words what they have drawn.
- “De Gullah Storybook”, tape recorder, head phones, and book on tape.
- This activity will enhance the phonemic awareness skills and listening skills.

Activity#4 (whole class)

- Students will demonstrate African dance
- Teachers will model African movements taught in a workshop done by Karamu.
- Class will come up with a whole dance routine.
- Cassette tape of Gullah music or Spirituals
- This activity will enhance multi intelligence skills (body movements).

Activity#5

- Children will prepare Gullah meal.
- Teachers will bring in cooking supplies
- Corn meal, greens, eggs, milk, vegetable oil, raw fish and iced tea.
- This activity will familiarize students with Gullah foods.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Joyner, Charles. Down by the Riverside. Chicago and Urbana Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 1985.
- Thompson, Robert Farris. Flash of the Spirit: African & Afro-American Art & Philosophy: New York, Vintage Books A Division of Random House. 1984.
- Vlach, John Michael. The Afro-American Tradition in Decorative Arts. Cleveland: Cleveland Museum of Arts, 1978.