TMSE-Overview

Third Graders

Twelve Sessions

Lesson : Documenting Culture

Previous lesson: Creating Culture

Materials:

* Paper
* Pens or Pencils

Focus:

* Review CLAP
* What is ethnography?

Objectives

* Students will learn about ethnography
  + Ethnography: writing about people and their cultures
* Students will learn about ethnographic methods
  + Participant observation: being a part of the culture and living with them while you observe and write about them
  + Interviewing members of the culture
* Students will attempt to describe another culture
* Students will learn about the different types of ethnographies
  + Articles, books, pictures, documentaries

Guided Practice

* Give students pictures of things from different cultures (examples in the powerpoint)
  + Help them describe the cultural information in the picture.

Independent Practice (Activities):

* First activity
  + Students will elect one representative from their clan.
  + They will send their representative to the other clans to interview them about their cultures and customs.
  + Representatives will return to their groups to tell them about the other clans.
  + Students will need a worksheet with questions to ask.
* Alternative Activity:
  + Teacher will pick one student and take the student right outside of the classroom.
  + Teacher will change some part of their appearance (take off their jacket, hair up in a ponytail, shoe untied, etc.).
  + The students will guess what has changed. The student that gets it right will be the next person that’s “ it.”
  + This activity demonstrates how we see “culture” and our instinctual knowledge of culture.

PowerPoint Script

Slide 1

Welcome back to anthropology! Remember, our focus for this semester is on the anthropology of Indonesia.

Slide 2

Last week we learned about the four fields of anthropology: cultural, or culture, linguistics, or language, archaeology, or people from the past, and physical, or humans and primates. Clap and say it with me.

Slide 3

Who has an idea about what ethnography is?

* blank faces

Ethno means people and graphy means writing, so ethnography is a research tool that anthropologists use to write about and describe people and their cultures.

Slide 4

What methods do ethnographers use to get their information?

Some anthropologists live within the cultures that they are studying for long times to learn and understand as much as they can.

They observe the people to learn how they live and participate in their daily activities and traditions to understand what the culture is like.

They interview people to learn about all different perspectives

Slide 5

If you were an ethnographer, how would you describe these pictures?

These are pictures of the Javanese celebration of the New Year, a Javanese wedding, a typical birthday party platter, and kids your age on their way to school.

Slide 6

There are many types of ethnographies. Most anthropologists publish their research as essays or books. Harry Potter could even be described as ethnography of Hogwarts students.

Some anthropologists use pictures and movies or documentaries to show people their research.

Does anyone have any questions about ethnographies?

Activity:

Students will elect one representative from their clan. They will send their representative to the other clans to interview them about their cultures and customs. Representatives will return to their groups to tell them about the other clans.

Students will need a worksheet with questions to ask.

Alternative Activity:

Teacher will pick one student and take the student right outside of the classroom. Teacher will change some part of their appearance (take off their jacket, hair up in a ponytail, shoe untied, etc.). The students will guess what has changed. The student that gets it right will be the next person that’s “ it.”

Nothing needed.