

Digging into Books

Adapted from lesson plan from George Schneider, B.A., M.A. (Anthropology), Elementary Teacher submitted to the SAA website

Time: 60 minutes

- English Language Arts:
 - Grade 1:
 - Inquiry Based Literary Standards: 1.1, 2.1, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1-4.3, 5.1-5.3
 - Reading Informational Text: 6.1, 7.1, 8.1, 8.2; 12.1-3
 - Writing: 2.1, 2.2
 - Communication: 1.1-1.5, 2.1, 2.2
 - Grade 2:
 - Inquiry Based Literary Standards: 1.1, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1-4.3, 5.1-5.3
 - Reading Informational Text: 6.1, 7.1, 8.1, 8.2; 12.1-3
 - Writing: 2.1, 2.2
 - Communication: 1.1-1.5, 2.1, 2.2
 - Grade 3:
 - Inquiry Based Literary Standards: 1.1, 2.1, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1-4.3, 5.1-5.3
 - Reading Informational Text: 6.1, 7.1, 8.1, 8.2; 12.1-3
 - Writing: 2.1,
 - Communication: 1.1-1.5, 2.1-2.4
 - Grade 4:
 - Inquiry Based Literary Standards: 1.1, 2.1, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1-4.3, 5.1-5.3
 - Reading Informational Text: 6.1, 8.1, 8.2; 12.1-3
 - Writing: 2.1
 - Communication: 1.1-1.5; 2.1
 - Grade 5:
 - Inquiry Based Literary Standards: 1.1, 2.1, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1-4.3, 5.1-5.3
 - Reading Informational Text: 8.1, 8.2; 12.1-3
 - Writing: 2.1
 - Communication: 1.1-1.5, 2.1, 4.1
 - Grade 6:
 - Inquiry Based Literary Standards: 1.1, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1-4.3, 5.1-5.3
 - Reading Informational Text: 7.1, 8.1, 8.2; 12.1-3
 - Writing: 2.1
 - Communication: 1.1-1.5, 4.1
 - Grade 7:
 - Inquiry Based Literary Standards: 1.1, 2.1, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1-4.3, 5.1-5.3
 - Reading Informational Text: 8.1, 8.2; 12.1-3
 - Writing: 2.1
 - Communication: 1.1-1.5, 4.1
 - Grade 8:
 - Inquiry Based Literary Standards: 1.1, 2.1, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1-4.3, 5.1-5.3
 - Reading Informational Text: 8.1, 8.2; 12.1-3
 - Writing: 2.1
 - Communication: 1.1-1.5, 4.1

Materials Needed:

- Archaeology books
- Paper
- Pencil

This activity is designed to introduce students to archaeology by having them find the definition of archaeology in the readings, and discover how math and science help us learn about the past.

Introduction:

Archaeology is often a discipline that is misunderstood. Knowing what archaeology is exactly and understanding how math and science aid an archaeologist in their work can help with understanding the true nature of archaeology.

Activity Steps:

1. Divide the class into pairs and give each pair an archaeology book.
2. Model to the students how to scan the book by using one of the methods such as SQ3R (most methods can be found in any book on teaching how to read).
3. Give the pairs 15-20 minutes to scan their books. They are to look for definitions of archaeology and to see how science and math are utilized.
4. After scanning the book, have the pairs work as a team and give a brief oral report on the books.

To keep the rest of the class engaged during the oral reports, assign a number to each group, place the numbers in a bowl and choose randomly a pair number to call upon and repeat what the last pair said.

This activity can be extended with homework. Have the students write a brief paper on what they have learned. This can be a group paper or individual paper.