

Learning from Miami

Title: “Palimpsest Awareness”

Background Information:

The overall theme of the Learning from Miami project is that of Palimpsest. Palimpsest in simple terms means a writing tablet that can be erased and written over but traces of the past can be detected within the tablet. Miami is compared to a Palimpsest in that although the architectural design changes with time the past can be uncovered.

Grades: Grades 6-8 (can be extended to any grade level)

Subject Areas: Language Arts, Social Studies, History, Art, Technology

Common Core Standards: www.commoncore.org

Objectives: 1. Students will be able to describe what the vocabulary term palimpsest means in a short essay.

2. Students will be able to create a drawings of local examples of the theme and the term palimpsest as evident in our local community.

3. Students will make generalizations about the theme of palimpsest after viewing the following prezi on GOOGLE CHROME:

http://prezi.com/xfdpnq5jcwfv/present/?auth_key=5plk8wd&follow=yepn3kdr2wum&kw=present-xfdpnq5jcwfv&rc=ref-35096845#33_3026966 and reading the information presented in the embedded links within the prezi.

4. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of the theme through creative visuals.

Materials: computer, smartboard, paper pencil

Steps for Implementation:

1. Students will take a minimum of 2 in-house virtual tours of important historical sites that define and identify the theme of palimpsest.
2. During these virtual tours students will make annotations, drawings of past and present features that are emphasized in these virtual tours.
3. Students will compare and contrast their selected virtual tours using a Venn Diagram graphic organizer.
4. After collecting their information, they will examine the key points and write a comparison/contrasting essay that further interprets the theme.

5. Working in small groups of 3-5 students each group will discuss and peer edit their findings written on their Venn Diagrams and essays.
6. Each group will create one visual (i.e. powerpoint, prezzi, interactive game, or poster) that compiles the groups' findings and interpretation of the theme.
7. Students will present their projects to the class.

ELL Strategies: visuals, hands-on activity, cooperative learning

Remediation Strategies: peer tutor, computer assisted instruction, cooperative learning group

Enrichment Activities: Each group will present their work in another class or lower level class in order to bring exposure and awareness to other peers.

Resources:

www.learningfrommiami.org

“Peeling Back the Layers” video segment at:

www.learningfrommiamia.org/?p=468

www.miamiherald.com/2013/04/30/3373505/archeological-dig-on-miami-river.htm

www.flheritage.com/archeology/projects/miamicircle/tour/tourdetails.cfm?id=40

www.virtualworldproject.org