

Domain-Based Unit Overview

Title of Domain: The Culture of Mexico, Grade 1

Learning Time: 6 days

Big Idea

Mexico is a country with a rich and varied heritage that combines indigenous, Spanish, and other influences to create a vibrant culture today.

What Students Need to Learn

- 1. Location of Mexico in relation to Canada and the United States
- 2. Location of Central America, the Yucatan Peninsula, the Gulf of Mexico, the Rio Grande, and Mexico City
- 3. The mix of indigenous and Spanish heritages in Mexican culture
- 4. Representative traditions: fiesta, pinata
- 5. September 16th is Mexican Independence Day and a national holiday

MN Academic Standards

1.8.2.2, 1.3.0.2, 1.8.4.4, 1.4.1.2.2, 1.4.2.4.1, 2.1.2.2, 2.1.3.3

Pre-Assessment

- 1. maps and globes and how to use them
- 2. the development of writing and its impact on civilization
- 3. religions as the basis of significant events and ideas in world history
- 4. theories about how early people migrated
- 5. how and why some early peoples changed from hunting and gathering to raising crops
- 6. how the development of farming led to the building of permanent settlements
- 7. daily life and accomplishments of the Maya, Aztec, and Inca people



Domain Lesson 1	Mexico, Past and Present
MN Academic	1.8.2.2, 1.3.0.2, 1.8.4.4, 1.4.1.2.2, 1.4.2.4.1
Standards	
Objectives	SWBAT: describe Mexico City
	SWBAT: name different cultures that influence life in Mexico today
	SWBAT: Retell and Aztec legend
Vocabulary	culture, ruins, Spanish, square, cactus, native languages
Procedure	 Ask students to recall different early civilizations they learned about previously. Have students locate North America on the map and show where Mexico is. Read Chapter 1: "Mexico, Past and Present" pausing to ask questions and elaborate. Turn and Talk: How do you describe Mexico City? Activity: Listen to the Aztec legend found on CKHG website. Have groups of students create a strip story of important events from the story. Each student draws a different part.
Poetry	If Applicable
Nonfiction	The Culture of Mexico
Fiction	MedioPollito
Saying and Phrases	If Applicable
Writing	If Applicable

Domain Lesson 2	The Geography of Mexico
MN Academic	1.3.1.1.2, 1.3.2.3.1, 1.8.2.2, 1.3.0.2, 1.8.4.4
Standards	
Objectives	SWBAT: locate Mexico on a map
	SWBAT: Identify key features and landmarks within Mexico
Vocabulary	coast, gulf, border, dams, peninsula, coral reefs, volcanoes, plateau
Procedure	1. Play the game "Around the World". Teacher asks several
	questions from teacher manual. Alternate between students
	having to locate answers on the map displayed on the Smart
	Board or by just telling the answer.
	2. Tell students they will be learning about the geography of Mexico
	and different things they will see if they travel there.
	3. Read Chapter 2: "The Geography of Mexico" pausing to ask
	questions and elaborate.
	4. Turn and Talk: "What would you see if you traveled to Mexico?"
	5. Activity 1 - Ap.2 - Students will locate and color various
	geographic labels



	6. Activity 2 - Go on a virtual field trip "Visit Mexico" found on
	CKHG website.
Poetry	If Applicable
Nonfiction	The Culture of Mexico
Saying and Phrases	If Applicable
Writing	If Applicable

Domain Lesson 3	Celebrations in Mexico
MN Academic	1.8.2.2, 1.3.0.2, 1.8.4.4
Standards	
Objectives	SWBAT: name three important Mexican holidays and how they are
	celebrated
Vocabulary	independence, fiesta, sombreros
Procedure	 Class discussion - Ask students to brainstorm different holidays they celebrate and describe how they celebrate them. Read Ch. 3: "Celebrations in Mexico" pausing to ask questions and elaborate. Discussion: Create a T-chart to list ways celebrations in Mexico and how they are celebrated Activity 1 - Make a paper bag pinata. Activity 2 - Read "The Dead Family Diaz" Activity 3 - Listen to Mariachi music at some point during the day
Poetry	If Applicable
Nonfiction	The Culture of Mexico
Saying and Phrases	If Applicable
Writing	If Applicable

Domain Lesson 4	Senor Coyote and the Cheese: A Mexican Folktale
MN Academic	1.8.2.2, 1.3.0.2, 1.8.4.4, 2.1.2.2, 2.1.3.3
Standards	
Objectives	SWBAT: explain the lesson in "Senor Coyote and the Cheese"
	SWBAT: describe the characters in "Senor Coyote and the Cheese"
Vocabulary	folktale, coyote, tortillas, feast
Procedure	1. Introduce the word folktale and review folktales they listened to
	in kindergarten
	2. Read Ch. 4: "Senor Coyote and the Cheese: A Mexican Folktale"
	pausing to ask questions and elaborate.
	3. Class discussion - What happens in the story?
	4. Activity - Watch YouTube video of "Medio Pollito-Little Half
	Chick"



Poetry	If Applicable
Nonfiction	The Culture of Mexico
Saying and Phrases	If Applicable
Writing	If Applicable

Domain Lesson 5	Review/Celebration Day!
MN Academic	
Standards	
Objectives	
Vocabulary	
Procedure	
Poetry	
Fiction	
Saying and Phrases	If Applicable
Writing	If Applicable