

Beautiful Butterflies

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Vetted Project: In this project, students learn about the life cycle of the butterfly. Importantly, students learn how to critique the work of others, as well as their own work. Opportunities to revise work, based on peer-to-peer critique, occur throughout the project. Finally, students face the challenges and joys of collaboration. Sustainability: My pre-K students are more interested in butterflies and ALL insects in general after this PBL. It made them more curious and more confident in their artwork ability. Driving Question: How do things change? Student Reflection: Student 1 - "We learned about the life cycle of the butterfly." Student 2 - "I found a caterpillar the other day! And now its my pet." Student 3 - "Can we look for insects outside? Please?!" Student 4 - "I liked making the giant caterpillar with paper mache'." Student 5 - "My favorite is the butterfly hanging on the ceiling! I loved blowing the bubble paint to make it." Student 6 - "I liked taking pictures with the butterflies on our nose. It tickled!!" Student 7 - "My favorite thing was talking to all the people on Expo night. That was fun because we dressed up with wings and the people liked us." Teacher Reflection: Hatching the butterflies and creating a giant model of each stage of the life cycle had a big impact. Learning about critique and making revisions also was very beneficial. Lessons Learned: It all worked out so well so I don't think I'd change a thing. The giant caterpillar took a lot of paper mache' but they loved it and it looks great...however it does take up a lot of space! Teacher Rating: Definitely would recommend (5 out of 5). Additional resources are available at PBLounge.org.

I. Authenticity

Performing

Speech or Spoken Word Performance

Demonstrating

Exhibit / Contest

Producing / Revising

Execute Multiple Drafts

Model or Prototype

Presenting

Utilize Visuals

II. Media Produced

Print Media: The students created a large poster of the butterfly they researched and their final drawing.

Tactile

Sculpting

Physical Drawings & Fine Arts

Illustration

Product Drawing or Sketch

III. Challenging Problems

Questions

Reveal the World

Self Reflection & Evaluation

Themes

Research-based

Topics: Physical World

Animals, Pets & Wildlife

IV. Achieved Literacy Skills

Project / Work

Learn / Develop Expertise

Manage Time / Workload

Take Initiative for Personal Success

Leadership

Present a Professional Appearance

I. Parameters & Feasibility

Project Timeframe: It took this long because I did this with four year olds. They had to be guided because of their age but it was very doable and they learned a LOT! # of

Project Members: I had to work with individuals at times because my four year olds are just learning to draw. One on one they listened and their final drawings of their butterflies were amazing!

Project Timeframe

7-8 Weeks

Assessment Timeframe

Within a Class Period

More than a Class Period

of Project Members

Individual

Small Group

Large Group

Grade Level

Pre-K

Elementary (Grades K-5)

Authentic Audience / Evaluators

Parents

Community Members

Special Test Accommodations

Presentation of Materials / Directions

Timing / Scheduling

II. Intended Learning Outcomes

Creativity
Brainstorm
Change
Design / Create
Elaborate / Expand
Improve / Refine

Communication
Engage Creatively

Collaboration
Ignore Distractions
Work with Diverse Teams

Critical Thinking
Reflect Critically on Learning

Instilled Citizenship Values
Personal Responsibility
Strong Personal / Work Ethic

III. Success Skills & Depth of Knowledge

Cognitive Demand
Identifying / Remembering
Comprehending / Understanding
Creating

Social & Emotional Skills
Self-awareness
Group-management

Learning Styles / Intelligences
Interpersonal / Social
Naturalist
Verbal / Linguistic
Visual / Spatial

Assessment Structures / Resources
Graphic Organizers
Interviews / Conferences
Learning Logs

IV. CTEs & Disciplines

Career & Technical
Architecture & Construction
Authorship & Composition
Printing & Publishing

Arts
Art Studies

Communication / Media
Speech Communication & Translation

Sciences
Biology



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