

The Phantom Tollbooth

WebQuest Description: This webquest is designed to let students show off their understanding of the novel The Phantom Tollbooth using creativity and their knowledge of the book.

Grade Level: 6-8

Curriculum: English / Language Arts

Keywords: The Phantom Tollbooth, classic novels

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WebQuest URL: <http://zunal.com/webquest.php?w=156069>

Introduction

Welcome to "The Lands Beyond!" On this journey, we will be meeting many interesting characters and visiting some very exciting places! In this webquest you will be able to showcase your knowledge of what you learned from reading The Phantom Tollbooth with creativity. Be sure you "have a destination in mind" before you drive through the tollbooth!

Tasks

Before beginning this journey, you will have already read the book The Phantom Tollbooth. During this journey, you will be learning more about words, word play, idioms and mathematical conversions. You will be assigned a partner to work with and you will both need to read the directions carefully and complete all of tasks that are assigned. Have fun, be creative and prepare to learn!

Process

Now that you have read The Phantom Tollbooth let's apply some of what you learned!

Step 1: The teacher will assign you a partner.

Step 2: You and your partner will work together to complete the next three steps in this webquest.

Step 3: Dictionopolis: Choose five (5) words and five (5) idioms that you learned while reading The Phantom Tollbooth. Do you have your five words and idioms? Ok, now do the following: Write the definition of each word or the meaning of each idiom in the Word Detective Graphic Organizer. Research the etymology (the history/origin of the word or idiom) of each word and idiom and report your findings on the Word Detective Graphic Organizer. Create an illustration of each word and idiom on the Word Detective Graphic Organizer. Use the following links to help you on this portion of the trip!

<http://www.etymonline.com/index.php><http://dictionary.reference.com/http://www.phrases.org.uk/http://www.pride-unlimited.com/probono/idioms1.html>http://www.idiomsite.com/http://wayland.k12.ma.us/loker/school_meeting/idioms.htmlhttp://www.fun-with-words.com/etym_phrases.html<http://www.pride-unlimited.com/probono/idioms2.html> Or you may use any search engine of your choosing (ex: yahoo or google).

Step 4: Digitopolis: Choose five(5) of the ten(10) journeys listed below: New York City, NY to San Francisco, CA; Los Angeles, CA to Chicago, IL; Cleveland, OH to Atlanta, GA; Las Vegas, NV to Washington D.C.; Pinon, AZ to Boston, MA; Austin, TX to Seattle, WA; Portland, OR to Myrtle Beach, SC; Orlando, FL to St. Louis, MO; Fargo, ND to New Orleans, LA; Phoenix, AZ to Youngstown, OH. Once you have chosen your ten journeys, do the following: Label each city on your map of the United States. Draw a line to connect the two destinations (ex: NYC should be connected with San Francisco). Create a key detailing the distance between the cities in the following measurements: Miles, Rods, Yards, Feet, Inches, Half inches. Use the following links to help you with this portion of the journey!

<http://www.convert-me.com/en/http://www.convertit.com/Go/ConvertIt/Measurement/><http://www.infoplease.com/pages/unitconversion.html>

Step 5: Create a visual aid (poster, powerpoint, banner) to show to your class what you and your partner have learned.

Evaluation

For this Webquest, you will be evaluated based on two components: your printed Webquest documents and your team visual aid of your project.

Category and Score	Beginning	Developing	Very Good	Exemplary	Score
Step 3: Dictionopolis	1 to 2 definitions, histories or illustrations presented. Spelling and grammar mistakes throughout. Finished product is illegible and/or messy.	4 to 5 definitions, histories or illustrations presented. Many spelling and grammar mistakes. Finished product is somewhat legible and/or messy.	8 to 9 definitions, histories or illustrations presented. Very few spelling and grammar mistakes. Finished project is legible and neat.	All definitions, histories and illustrations presented. No spelling and grammar mistakes. Finished project is very legible and neat.	20
Step 4: Dictionopolis	1 to 2 cities marked on map. 1 to 2 city connections on map. 1 to 2 keys with measurement conversions. Finished product is illegible and/or messy.	4 to 5 cities marked on map. 4 to 5 city connections on map. 4 to 5 keys with measurement conversions. Finished product is somewhat legible and/or messy.	8 to 9 cities mark on map. 8 to 9 city connections on map. 8 to 9 keys with measurement conversions. Finished product is legible and neat.	All cities are marked on map. All city connections are marked on map. All keys with measurement conversions. Finished product is very legible and neat.	20
Step 5: Visual Aid	Visual aid only includes 1 to 2 words or idioms with definitions, histories and illustrations. Visual aid only includes 1 to 2 city on map with connections and conversions. Visual aid is illegible and messy.	Visual aid only includes 3 to 4 words or idioms with definitions, histories and illustrations. Visual aid only includes 3 to 4 cities on map with connections and conversions. Visual aid is somewhat illegible and messy.	Visual aid includes 8 to 9 words and idioms with definitions, histories and illustrations. Visual aid includes 8 to 9 cities on map with connections and conversions. Visual aid is legible and neat.	Visual includes all words and idioms, with definitions, histories and illustrations. Visual aid includes all cities on map with connections and conversions. Visual aid is very legible and neat.	20
Creativity	Project is plain with no added flair. No pictures or color.	Project has very little color and one or two illustrations.	Project is colorful and includes 8 to 9 illustrations.	Project is very colorful and has 10 or more illustrations.	20
Total Score					80

Conclusion

Woohoo! You have completed your journey!! I hope you have enjoyed your time here in "The Lands Beyond" digging deeper into words, idioms and numbers. Remember that you can copy down the different etymology and measurement conversion websites for future use. Let's sit back now, relax and listen to what everyone has learned on their journey.

Teacher Page

This webquest is based on the book *The Phantom Tollbooth* by Norton Juster. The book was recently suggested to me so I picked it up and started to read it. I was hooked from the first paragraph. The author described exactly how many students feel about learning so well. If you haven't read this book, I highly suggest that you do. This webquest is set up to help students learn more about where words and phrases and where they originate from. It also teaches students about measurement conversions and how the distance may be the same even if the numbers are different depending on the unit of measurement.

Standards

I used the following 7th grade ELA Common Core Standards when I created this unit.

7.RL.9 Compare and Contrast a fictional portrayal of a time, place, or character and a historical account of the same period as a means of understanding how authors use or alter history.

7.RL.3 Analyze how particular elements of a story interact.

7.RL.6 Analyze how an author develops and contrasts the POV of different characters or narrators in text

7.RL.2 Determine the theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text

7.RL.7 Compare and contrast a written story to its audio, filmed, staged or multimedia version, analyzing the effects of techniques unique to each medium (lighting, sound, color, or camera focus and angles in a film)

7.RL.1 Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of text.

7.LS.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on grade 7 topics, texts and issues

Credits

I would like to thank Virginia Usnick for suggesting this book to me.

I would also like to thank Lori Chee for telling me to create my own webquest for this book. It was a highly educational project for me and I really enjoyed learning how to create my own webquest.

Other