The Hunger Games

WebQuest Description: As students are reading The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins, students will start The Hunger Games Webquest. Students will finish the webquest at the completion of the novel.

Grade Level: 6-8
Curriculum: English / Language Arts
Keywords: Hunger Games, Suzanne Collins, Fight to the Death, Persuasive, Business Letter, Contraversy, Violence, Media, Society

Introduction

"Ladies and Gentlemen, Let the Seventy-Fourth Hunger Games Begin!" Claudius Templesmith (Collins P.174) For the past few weeks, you have been reading, The Hunger Games, by Suzanne Collins and have been having much discussion on the book. As you continue to navigate your way through the novel, you will also navigate your way through The Hunger Games and Webquest. Each week you will complete one to two tasks within the webquest. The final part of the webquest will be completed at the end of the novel. Tasks will include responding to article and videos, creating a Glogster poster, writing letters, and writing a final essay. "Happy Hunger Games! And may the odds be ever in your favor!" Effie Trinket (Collins P.19) The Following Essential Questions will be addressed throughout this WebQuest: There is a lot of violence within this story. We also see a lot of violence within our media, entertainment, and news. What does this say about our society? Is this type of violence for entertainment acceptable? Why or why not? Theme and author’s purpose go hand-in-hand. Theme is the author’s message or life lesson. Author’s purpose is the reason why the author writes (persuade, inform, entertain). Knowing that Suzanne Collins wrote to entertain, what is the lesson she is trying to teach us? Why would I choose this book to read to eighth graders? What do you think I wanted you to take from this novel? Compare and contrast how parents respond to this novel and how children respond to this novel.

Tasks

You will have several tasks that you must accomplish in order to 'stay alive' in the games. Each week you will complete one to two of these tasks within your computer technology class. Your computer technology teacher will help you with this process. The following tasks are:

1. Watch a video from Suzanne Collins, the author of The Hunger Games, as she explains the story. There are five videos. You are to watch all five videos. When this is complete, you will be required to answer questions about the videos.
2. Explore a character from The Hunger Games and create a Glogster poster.
3. Read various articles about violence in the media.
4. Read various articles about banned books.
5. Read various articles about the controversy over reading The Hunger Games in school.
6. Write a letter to parents explaining the educational value of reading the novel, The Hunger Games.
7. Write an essay on what you think Suzanne Collin's message was for her readers using such a story.

Process

Task Number One: This task will be completed during the first week of the WebQuest. You are to click HERE to watch five videos staring the author of The Hunger Games, Suzanne Collins. When finished watching the five videos, you will return to this page of the WebQuest. Click on "Interview Questions" document below to answer questions on a word document about the videos. Remember, you will need to SAVE the document before starting to type your answers. When this is finished, you are to email 'President Friedman' using your school email address. This task will take place in the head Gamemaker's room, Mrs. Myers. She will be helping you navigate your way through the tasks/games and will be providing you with assistance.

Task Number Two: This task will be completed during the third week of the WebQuest. The first part of the task will be accomplished in President Friedman's classroom and the second part of the task will be completed in Head Gamemaker Myers' classroom.

Task Part A: In President Friedman's room, you will select a character to create a poster for. In class, you will write down your character's name, 3 physical traits, 3 personality traits, the district where this character lives, and the weapon of choice. If he or she is not in the games, you will have to decide what you think this person would have used. If you use direct quotes, you MUST properly cite using parenthetical citation. Then, you will be asked to answer "I know this because..." You must have a rough draft of the Glogster Poster you will create. Your final Glogster Poster must include a picture of that character (This can come from Google, but remember YOU MUST CITE!)

Task Part B: In Head Gamemaker Myers's room, you will create the Glogster Poster. President Friedman will have shown you in her classroom how to create the Glogster Poster. However, due to lack of computers in her room, the creation of the Glogster poster will take place in your computer technology classroom. Please refer to the handout President Friedman gave you on how to create your Glogster Poster. If you need help during the creation of the poster, both President Friedman and Head Gamemaker Myers can help.

If you lost of forgot your handout on how to create a Glogster, click on "Glogster Project" document below. This will be completed during the fourth week of the WebQuest. In this task, you will read the following articles by click on the names of the articles and watch the following videos by click on the title. The topic of the articles and videos focus on violence in video games and the media. You will be given a quiz over these items in President Friedman's room, so you will want to make sure you are paying attention. Plus, you know President Friedman loves to have discussion on everything.

The following articles and videos will be watch in Head Gamemaker Myers's computer technology classroom.
The following videos are: [video link] (http://abcnews.go.com/Health/Parenting/pediatricians-urged-pull-plug-entertainment/story?id=11893119#.T-O53y58BVw)

(Note: The video does not go with the story. Read only the article)

The following videos are: [video link] (http://www.teachertube.com/viewVideo.php?video_id=64464&title=Violence_in_Video_Games)

Be able to discuss the following topics:

- There is a lot of violence within this story. We also see a lot of violence within our media, entertainment, and news. What does this say about our society?
- Is this type of violence for entertainment acceptable? Why or why not?
- Why did Suzanne Collins choose to use violence within her story? Could she have taught the same lessons without using violence?
- How does the violence in the story compare to the violence in the news?

Task Number Four:

- Task number four will also be completed during the fourth week of the WebQuest. In this task you will read the articles and watch the videos below just as you did in task three. These articles and videos will focus on 'Banning Books.'
- Remember to pay attention to what you read and what you watch as President Friedman loves to throw in pop quizzes to see how you will react!

Also, she loves her discussion in class about how the articles and videos tie into the novel, The Hunger Games.

The following articles are:
- [article link] (https://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/banned/bannedbooksweek/index.cfm)
- [article link] (http://books.google.com/googlebooks/banned)
- [article link] (http://www.teenink.com/opinion/social_issues_civics/article/131038/Against-Banning-Books)

Be able to discuss the following topics:

- What are banned books?
- Why are there banned books?
- Should there be books that should be banned? Why? Why not?
- Why would parents want to ban The Hunger Games? Do parents have a legitimate reason to ban this book?
- How does reading this book affect you? (You are the same age as many of the tributes) If you were a parent, would you try to ban this book?

Task Number Five:

- This task will be completed during the fifth week of the WebQuest. In this task you will read the articles below just as you did in tasks three and four.
- These articles and videos will focus on The Hunger Games controversy in the classroom.
- Remember to pay attention to what you read. President Friedman likes to keep you on your toes and create a 'mutt' in the form of a quiz or discussion!

The following articles are:
- [article link] (http://seattletimes.nwsource.com/html/localnews/2017800832_hungergames21m.html)
- [article link] (http://theweek.com/article/index/226616/should-school-libraries-ban-the-hunger-games)
- [article link] (http://www.forbes.com/sites/joshuagans/2012/03/26/the-hunger-games-is-a-great-movie-for-kids)
- [article link] (http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-31749_162-57411256-10391698/the-hunger-games-trilogy-appears-on-challenged-books-list/)

Be able to discuss the following topics:

- Why are people concerned about this novel?
- What is the controversy surrounding this novel?
- Is this novel to graphic or violent? Should this novel be banned? Why? Why not?
- Do you think 8th graders should read this? Is it more appropriate for another grade level?
- Why do you think parents view this novel differently than someone similar to your age?
- What would you say to parents who want to ban this book?

Task Number Six:

- This task will be completed during the fifth and sixth week of the WebQuest. In order to complete this task, please click on "The Hunger Games Book Ban Controversy" for the persuasive letter prompt.
- You will start this task during the fifth week of the WebQuest, but will not finish it until the sixth week of the WebQuest.
- Task Number Seven: You are almost there folks. Only a few remaining tributes left and then you will be the official winners of the Seventy Four Annual Hunger Games! This task will start during the seventh week of the WebQuest and finish during the eighth week of the WebQuest.

Congratulations! You have successfully completed The Hunger Games WebQuest! You are officially the winner of the Seventy-Forth Annual Hunger Games. You have successfully navigated your way throughout the novel, games, and WebQuest! Congratulations again!

Evaluation

You will be evaluated on several different items. I have provided documents below to see the various rubrics. Please disregard the section below labeled: Evaluation Rubric.

Category and Score

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Total Score

Conclusion

Standards

Credits

A Special Thanks to the following for allowing me to borrow pictures: