Mesoamerican Cultures.

WebQuest Description: This Webquest will help High School - Foreign Language Learners to understand the Mesoamerican civilizations and the possible causes of Mayan disappearance from history. The task planned for this activity will be "Compilation Task" with "Journalistic Research."

Grade Level:  9-12
Curriculum:  Foreign Language
Keywords: Compilation Task with Journalistic Research Activity
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Introduction

Mesoamerican civilization, the complex of aboriginal cultures that developed in parts of Mexico and Central America prior to Spanish exploration and conquest in the 16th century. The biggest enigma in the Mesoamerica history: The Mayan Disappearance - Where did they go?

Tasks

The students will be able to make recommendations, assess value, make choices, and critique ideas about different web sources of information related with the topic of Mesoamerican Cultures and the possible causes of the Mayan civilization disappearance. Start exploring the Mayan world through this interactive Quiz. Test yourself how much do you know about Mayan culture. The Mayan Rise and Fall. As you see, you need to learn a basic concepts about Mesoamerica in order to respond successfully to these questions. Before start your research see the following video about Mesoamerican civilizations.

Process

Scenario You were hired by National Geographic as a Journalists and you were assigned to research the possible causes of Mayan disappearance. In order to fulfill with this assignment you have to work cooperatively in ... 1. Analyze and evaluate the information provided for your research. 2. Write as a group 3 questions that will guide you during the research to decipher where did the Mayan civilization go? 3. Travel virtually through google map or google earth to know better the Mesoamerican countries. 4. Read, synthesize and summarize information to get conclusions. 5. Present as a group your findings in a press conference and be prepared for responding the class questions. 6. Create a documentary about your findings, adding photos, maps, graphs, summary and conclusions.

Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category and Score</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Analysis of information and Quality of Questions</td>
<td>The questions has little or nothing to do with the main topic.</td>
<td>The questions clearly relates tot he main topic. No details and/or examples are given.</td>
<td>The questions clearly relates to the main topic. It provides 1-2 supporting details and/or examples.</td>
<td>The questions clearly relates to the main topic and the responses support details and/or examples.</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet Sources Use</td>
<td>Needs assistance or supervision to use suggested internet links and/or to navigate within these sites.</td>
<td>Occasionally able to use suggested internet links to find information and navigates within these sites easily without assistance.</td>
<td>Usually able to use suggested internet links to find information and navigates within these sites easily without assistance.</td>
<td>Successfully uses suggested internet links to find information and navigates within these sites easily without assistance.</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Now you have learned the importance of the Mesoamerican culture comparing and contrasting different sources of information. At the same time, you have learned about the Mayan disappearance enigma. At this point, you are ready to establish your written opinion in three paragraphs about why the Mayan disappear from history.

Conclusion

This project must be completed in one week of regular period of class, including the presentation and the Web 2.0 tool. This project will help students to understand who we are and how the heritage provided for our ancestors in the past affects our present. We are the result of past generations. How will be our legacy?

Standards
1. The student demonstrates understanding of the influence of demographics and geography in order to relate the importance of geographical locations and features to historical events and trends.
2. The student acquires and applies skills of historical thinking through the use of technology and web 2.0 tools media.
3. Integrates academic and applies appropriate technology principles into the work project to solve a social history enigma “Where the Mayan Civilization did go?”

Credits
All the sources mentioned in this project

Other