

Children's Literature Across the Curriculum Ideas

Created by students at the University of North Carolina Charlotte

Title: *Stone Fox*

Author: John Reynolds Gardiner

Grade Level: 3/4

Summary: Ten-year-old Willy and his dog, Searchlight must compete against the Indian, Stone Fox for prize money to save Grandpa's potato farm.

Reading/Writing Connections

1. Discuss the cover of *Stone Fox* and construct a Know/Want to Know/Learned chart.
2. Read a chapter a day. Organizer questions may help students.
3. Discuss the setting in Chapter 1.
4. Upon completion of the book, ask students to illustrate their favorite scene from the story and describe the setting in words.
5. Review the steps of the writing process.
6. The children will use a sequence chain as a pre-writing strategy and construct a draft news article reporting the National Dogsled Race.
7. Students will finish their race articles and write them in final form.

Vocabulary/Spelling

conclusions	doctor	experiment	hypothesis	Indian
mountain	newspaper	potato	research	Wyoming

Library Connections

1. Have books about snow available as reference: *Snow is Falling* (Branley, F.) and *The Snow Book* (Evans, E.).
2. Include other dog stories such as: *Cindy, A Hearing Ear Dog* (Curtis, P.), *A Puppy for You* (Hess, L.), *A Dog's Life* (Hopkins, L.), or *The Comeback Dog* (Thomas, J.).
3. Books on Wyoming should be available such as: *Wyoming in Words and Pictures* (Fradin, D.) and *America, the Beautiful, Wyoming* (Heinrichs, A.).
4. Native American stories should be available to students such as: *Indians of the Northern Plains* (Powers, W.), *Black Star, Bright Dawn* (O'Dell, S.), *Sage Smoke; Tales of the Shoshoni-Bannock Indians* (Heady, E.) or *Race Against Death; A True Story of the Far North* (Reit, S.).

Social Studies/Art Connections

1. Students will construct a product map of Wyoming.
2. Students will compare and contrast weather of North Carolina and Wyoming in a venn diagram.
3. Students will construct the community of Jackson in a diorama.
4. Provide rocks for students to glue together to form a fox of stone. Students may paint their creations.

Science/Mathematics Connections

1. Students will learn about temperature measurement, states of matter, and the water cycle in a learning center, "Getting to Know Snow".
2. The class will conduct an experiment on frost. Students will hypothesize, experiment, interpret, conclude, and record observations and conclusions in science journals.

English/Language Arts Connections

1. Discuss Little Willy's motivation and ask the students about a challenge in their own life.
2. Upon completion of the book and other research, list information learned as students volunteer their answers.