

Engage Examples

2026

Communication

- Communicate so they know you want to collaborate.
- What would contribute to curriculum/teaching that isn't a waste of time?

The Process

- Teachers send me TEKs to cover in the lesson/stop by and book the library for their lesson
- I create a list of ideas for lessons covering those TEKs
- Teacher chooses the one they like
- I create a lesson plan and send it to them for changes
- Teacher approves/requests changes
- I create lesson for their library day

Library Usage

Who used the library last year? How was it used?

- 6-8 Grade ELA (Applied-GT)--lessons every 3 weeks
- 8th Grade LEAP--lessons once per quarter
- 7th Grade Science--lesson with research project
- 8th Grade US History--display of research project
- 8th Grade PHS--doctor's office for parenting project
- SOAR--weekly lessons to extent class lessons
- Clubs--D&D (weekly), Kindness (biweekly)
- Community outreach--Roanoke Teen Services Librarian (monthly)

Core Classes

Indigenous People

6th Grade ELA Walk Two Moons

Quick 5-7 minute stations for small groups to provide background information for the upcoming class novel.

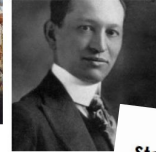
Indigenous in di juh nuhs

What It Means
A word that describes the first people who lived in a country or area before other groups arrived.

How It's Used
Talks about groups of people who have a special connection to a specific land and have their own unique ways of living and traditions.

Example
The Iroquois in the United States and the Maya people in Mexico are Indigenous groups.

History Rotation-Video & Images



Scan with your chromebook to watch the video of an Iroquois powwow. (Start at the 1:00 mark)

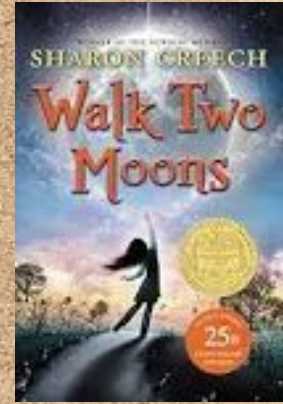
Arthur C. Parker was the first archaeologist at the New Museum from 1906 until 1911. Since his death, he is remembered by the New York State Museum for his work to document Iroquois history and his role in the New Museum where he conducted research.

Story Station

Listen to the children's book *How the Moon Regained Her Shape*. You may follow along by turning the pages in the actual book, or simply watching the video. Answer the questions as you listen.

Questions:

1. How does the sun treat the moon?
2. Who shows kindness to the moon?
3. How do kindness and empathy change the moon?
4. What is the central theme of this children's book?



Shakespearean Insults



SHAKESPEAREAN INSULTS



You too can speak Shakespeare! Nothing sounds more authentic than insults.

How to make an Insult

There are three columns on the other side of this page: A, B, and C. To make an insult, pick one word from each column and string them together.

For example, taking the first word in each column gives you the insult: "artless base-court apple-john."

7th Grade ELA Wednesday Wars

Group activity to introduce Shakespeare and the way he wrote/spoke, as well as how popular words change over time.

Shakespeare ...I don't get it!

- roll down the window
- hang up the phone
- clockwise/counterclockwise
- turn the tape over
- yellow pages/white pages
- dial tone
- throw in the towel
- that's sick
- turn it down a notch
- hit the hay
- stay tuned



The Mystery of DB Cooper

All grades ELA
Print/Graphic Features &
Multimodal Texts

Students sift through
various modes of text to
uncover the mystery of
what happened to DB
Cooper.

"The Mystery of D. B. Cooper — Reading Beyond the Words"

Grade Level: 6th Grade

Time: 45 minutes

TEKS Focus:

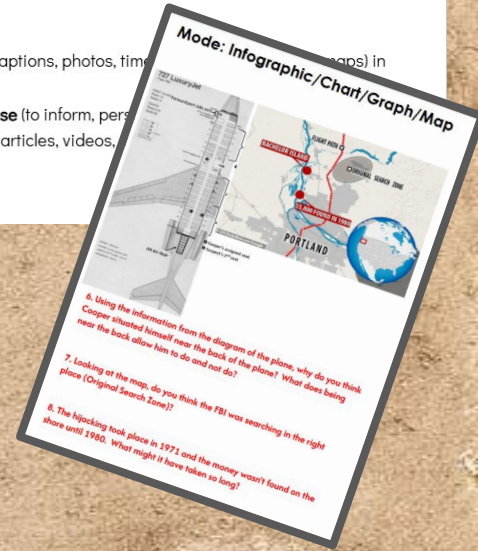
- 6.12(C)–Analyze the author's use of **print and graphic features** to achieve specific purposes.
- 6.12(D)– Analyze the **characteristics of multimodal and digital texts**.



Learning Objectives

Students will:

1. Identify and analyze **print and graphic features** (headings, captions, photos, time lines, etc.) in informational texts about the D. B. Cooper case.
2. Examine how those features contribute to the **author's purpose** (to inform, persuade, etc.).
3. Evaluate how **print and digital formats**—such as news articles, videos, etc.—contribute to how the story is understood and felt.



Universal Declaration of Human Rights

8th Grade Human Rights/Book Tasting Lesson

Grade Level: 8th Grade

Time: 45 minutes

Learning Objectives

Students will:

1. Understand the **history and purpose of human rights** through the United Nations Human Rights.
2. Explore a variety of books about **human rights violations** to determine if
3. Identify and record their **top six book picks** for potential reading.
4. Practice **evaluating books quickly** using key questions about content, th



Activity 7

Resource sheet 1

Universal Declaration of Human Rights summary version



- 1 We are born free and equal, and should treat others in the same way.
- 2 We have all these rights in the Declaration, no matter who we are, where we're from or what we believe in.
- 3 We have the right to life, and to be free and feel safe.
- 4 Nobody has any right to make us a slave. We cannot make anyone else our slave.
- 5 Nobody has any right to hurt, torture or humiliate us.
- 6 Everyone has the right to be protected by the law.
- 7 The law is the same for everyone. It must treat us all fairly.
- 8 We can all ask for the law to help us when we are not treated fairly.
- 9 We can all think what we like, say what we think and share ideas and information with other people.
- 10 We all have the right to meet our friends and work together in peace to defend our rights. It is wrong to force someone to belong to a group.
- 11 We all have the right to take part in the government of our country. Every grown up should be allowed to vote to choose their own leaders.
- 12 The place where we live should help us to develop and to make the most of all the advantages (culture, work, social welfare) on offer. Music, art, craft and sport are for everyone to enjoy.
- 13 Every grown up has the right to a job, to a fair wage and to get a trade union.
- 14 We all have the right to rest and free time.
- 15 We all have the right to a decent living standard, including medical care, housing, food, clothing and transport.

right to

medical

right to

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education

of Human Rights from Amnesty International UK.

It has been developed for the purpose of enabling

stranger children to understand the rights in the

Declaration. For the full version of the Declaration see

www.un.org/en/documents/undhr/decl.shtml

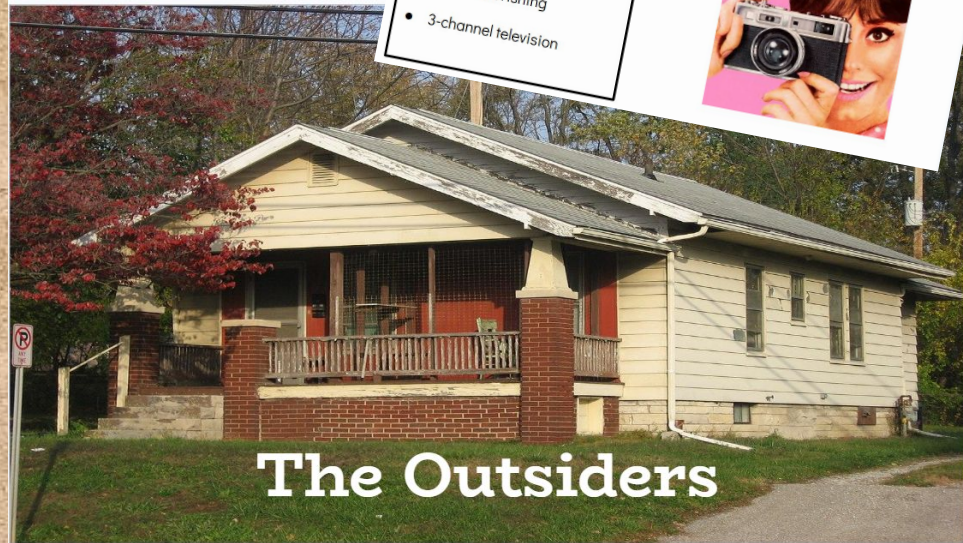
- 16 When we are legally old enough, we have the right to marry and have a family.
- 17 Everyone has the right to own things or share them.
- 18 We all have the right to our own thoughts and to believe in any religion.

"In the absence of education, garbage fills its place."
What do you think the news anchor meant with this statement?

Introduction to The Outsiders & SE Hinton

7th Grade ELA Introduction to *The Outsiders*

Students learned why SE Hinton wrote, who fought to turn the book to a movie, and took a virtual tour of The Outsiders house near Tulsa, OK.



Understanding Drama Through Charlie Brown

Understanding Drama Through A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving

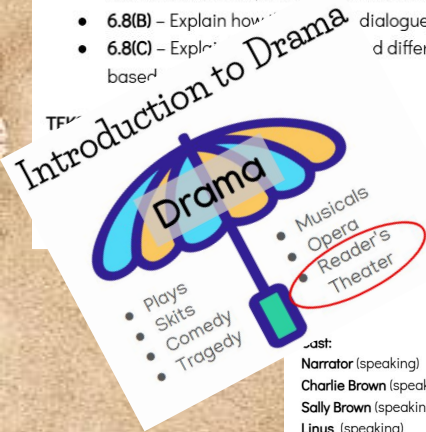


Grade Level: 6th-8th Grade

Time: 45 minutes (including checkout time)

TEKS Focus 6th Grade:

- **6.8(A)** – Explain the structural elements of dramatic literature, including the roles of characters and dialogue, the use of acts and scenes, and stage directions.
- **6.8(B)** – Explain how dialogue, and stage directions influence the understanding of characters.
- **6.8(C)** – Explain differences in the settings, characters, and plot of a play and those in a film based



stage directions influence character and plot development.
development are used in a variety of literary genres including drama.
tion of a work with its film or performance adaptation.

A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving Reader's Theater Script

Cast:

- Narrator (speaking)
- Charlie Brown (speaking)
- Sally Brown (speaking)
- Linus (speaking)
- Peppermint Patty (speaking)
- Marcie (speaking)
- Franklin (non speaking)
- Snoopy (non speaking)
- Woodstock (non speaking)



All Grades ELA Introduction to Drama

Students learn basics of drama with vocab, readers theater, & watching the same scene from the movie *A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving*. A modified script for applied classes was used as well.

Intro to Fantasy with Informational Stations

8th Grade ELA Introduction to Fantasy/Dystopia

Students review basics
the fantasy genre, then
take turns at two
stations expanding their
understanding.

Fantasy Genre Certification	
The Fantasy Certification Board has hired you to officially define why books qualify for each of these fantasy categories. Your job is to determine the non-negotiable traits by analyzing the books in the displays. Rotate silently through the three displays and complete the analysis for each of them.	
Step 1: Books in Individual Displays What is common in each of the individual displays? Retellings - Ex: Strong female protagonist Percy Jackson Read-Alikes - Ex: Snarky first-person narrator Wings of Fire Read-Alikes - Ex: Animal/creature POV	Step 2: All Books in the Displays (combined) What MUST a book include to belong in the fantasy genre? (List 3-5 traits) Avoid vague answers like "magic" or "dragons."
Step 3: Disqualifiers What would immediately disqualify a book from each display? For example, what would make a book NOT a retelling? Not being based on any previous book.	Step 4: Write the Official Definition Write ONE strong sentence: All fantasy stories include They differ from realistic fiction because The most important element of fantasy is

Station 1-Tables Station 2-Shelves

- Bookmark
- ID check
- Fantasy Stations

10:00

We will all come together at the end for discussion.
Your paper will go in your notes folder.

Intro to Comedy: High and Low Balance

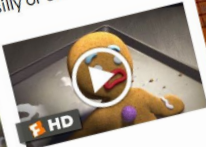
High and
Low
Comedy

How do writers use different types of humor to reach different audiences?

Movie Examples

What makes something funny?

- Do all jokes take the same amount of thinking?
- Which do you prefer: silly or smart humor?



While watching, ask yourself:

- What makes this funny?
- Does it require thinking?



More reasons to include both...

Reason #1 – Different Audiences

- Low comedy → everyone understands
- High comedy → rewards deeper thinking

Reaches MORE people

Reason #2 – Keeps Attention

- Long plays need variety
- Humor keeps audiences engaged

Prevents boredom

Reason #3 – Emphasizes Ideas

- High comedy → makes you think
- Low comedy → makes moments memorable

Helps audience understand themes

Reason #4 – Balances the Story

- Serious moments + humor

Gives the audience a break

8th Grade ELA
Introduction to Comedy

Students define high and low comedy, see examples of both, and discuss how & why authors use each type.

Out of This World Real Estate!

7th Grade Science Introduction to Research

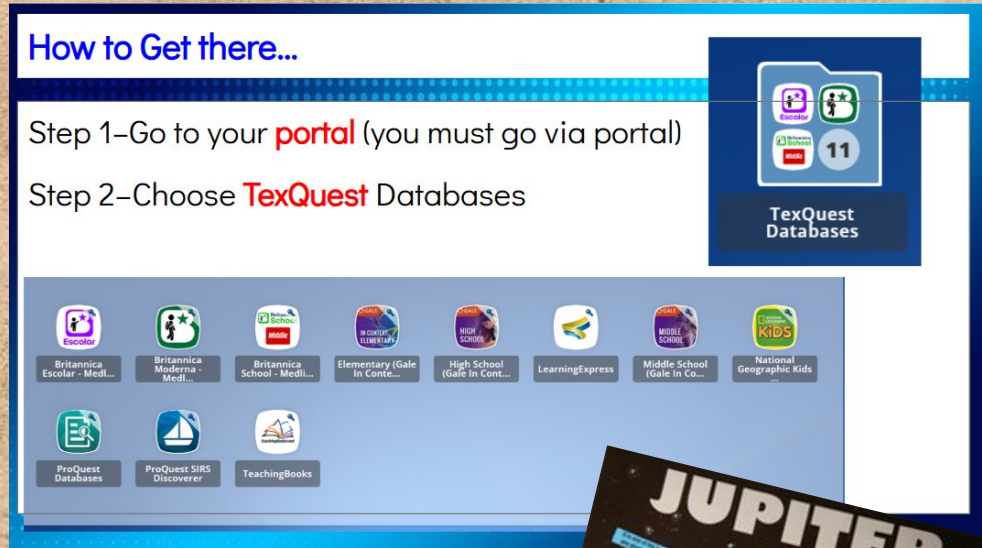
Students learn to utilize databases in their district portal and cite sources from it.

How to Get there...

Step 1–Go to your **portal** (you must go via portal)

Step 2–Choose **TexQuest** Databases

TexQuest Databases



The screenshot shows a grid of database icons. The top row includes: Escorial, Britannica Modern - Med..., Britannica School - Medi..., Elementary (Gale In Conte..., High School (Gale In Conte..., LearningExpress, Middle School (Gale In Co..., and National Geographic Kids. The bottom row includes: ProQuest Databases, ProQuest SIRS Discoverer, and TeachingBooks.



Collaborative Display

US History Tombstone Project

Oct 16-Nov 5



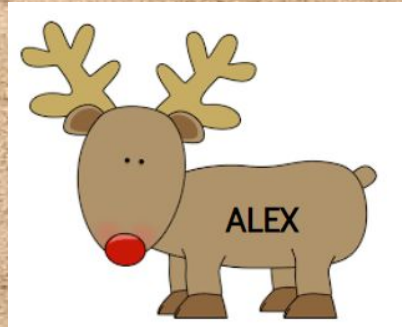
SOAR Lessons

Continents and States: Reindeer Travel

SOAR Class

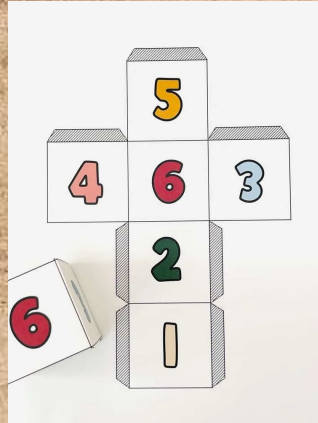
Identifying states and continents

Students move the reindeer on the map based on what state or continent they draw from the pile.



Feed the Penguin

FEED THE PENGUIN



SOAR Class
Counting

Students fed their penguin goldfish and Swedish fish based on the number they rolled on the dice. Then they got to eat them.

Veterans Day Flag Rules

SOAR Class Flag Rules

Students got a booklet about flag rules for the US and then created a big flag with their names on the stars for visiting veterans.



Types of Animals

First Day at Zoo School



By Sarah Dillard

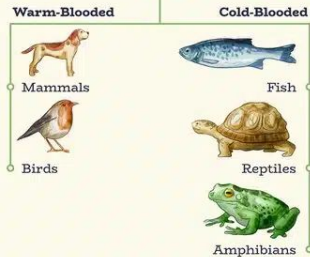


SOAR Class Animal Classification

Students learned mammals, amphibians, and reptiles and sorted them before their zoo field trip.

CLASSIFICATION OF ANIMALS

VERTEBRATES



REPTILES

BOTH

AMPHIBIANS

- scales
- dry skin
- live on land
- lay eggs on land (hard shell)
- slither and crawl

- vertebrates
- oviparous
- walk
- lungs

- moist skin
- live on land and in water
- lay eggs in water (soft/transparent shell)
- breathe through gills (baby), through skin and lungs (adult)
- swim and jump

Library Scavenger Hunt

SOAR Class Genres

Students learned that genres are kinds of stories and then which sticker matched which kind of story. Then they located those stickers in the library.

Library Scavenger Hunt

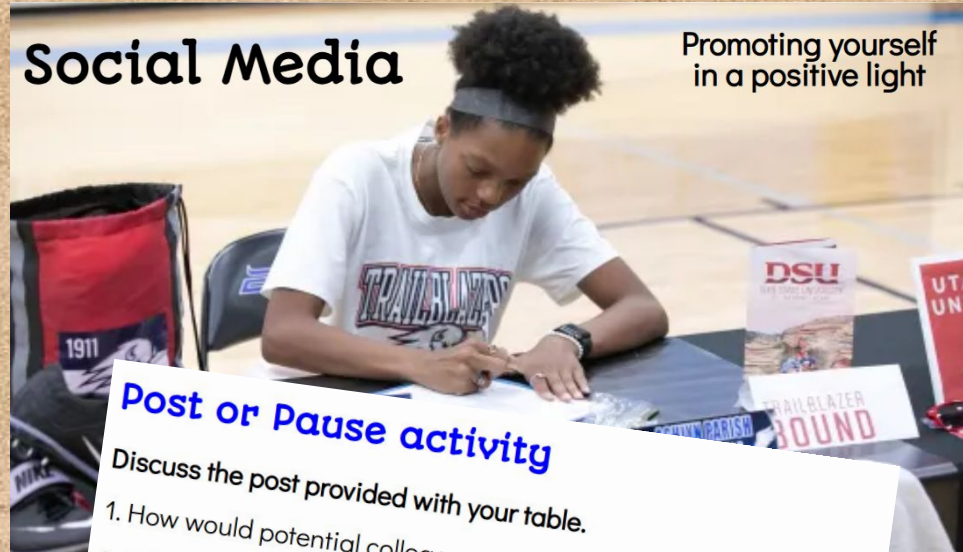
- ☐ book with a tree on the cover 
- ☐ book with a mystery sticker on the spine 
- ☐ book with a red cover
- ☐ book with cartoon characters 
- ☐ book about sports 
- ☐ book with a purple sticker on the spine

LEAP Lessons

Using Social Media

8th Grade LEAP Class
Social Media Use

Students learned positive ways to use social media for college, military, and career preparation.

A photograph of a young woman with dark hair in a ponytail, wearing a white t-shirt with a 'TRAILBLAZER' logo, sitting at a table and signing a book. On the table are several items: a red backpack with '1911' on it, a book titled 'DSU THE TRAILBLAZER', a book titled 'TRAILBLAZER BOUND', and a red sign with 'UTA UN'. The background is a blurred indoor setting.

Social Media

Promoting yourself in a positive light

Post or Pause activity

Discuss the post provided with your table.

1. How would potential colleges or employers perceive the post?
2. What does that post suggest about the person who posted it?

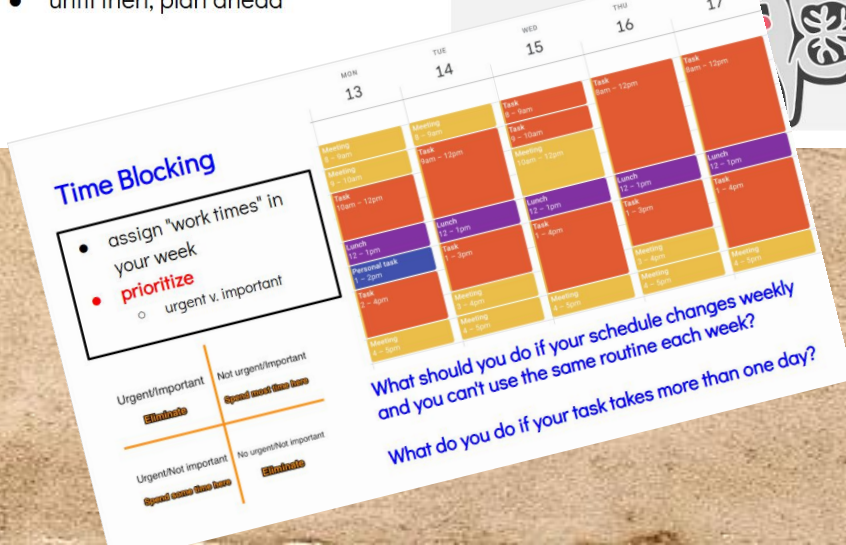
Be ready to share out after 2 minutes.

02:00

Time Management

Teen Brains and Time Management

- the part of the brain that helps with time management doesn't fully develop until your mid-twenties
- how can you make sure it develops well by that time
 - routine
 - ask for help
 - use tools to help you
 - remove distractions during work time
 - use a timer
- until then, plan ahead



8th Grade LEAP Class Time Management

Students learned science behind how their brains work and strategies to help manage school, extracurriculars, and other outside responsibilities.

Importance of Hygiene at Work

8th Grade LEAP Class
Hygiene at Work

Students learned the importance of hygiene and tied it into getting and keeping a job in the future.



"In some jobs, hygiene isn't just polite—it's actually part of the safety rules."

Restaurants – hand washing prevents food poisoning and contamination

Hospitals / clinics – hygiene protects patients

Daycares / schools – stops illness spreading

Retail – interacting closely with customers



Hygiene & Your Future: Why It Matters

- **First Impressions Count:** Clean hands, hair, and clothes help you feel confident and make others take you seriously.
- **Job Opportunities:** Employers notice hygiene—being clean and well-groomed can make the difference in hiring. 46% of recruiters disqualify candidates for poor hygiene.
- **Teamwork & Respect:** Good hygiene shows respect for yourself and others in group work or shared spaces.
- **Health = Attendance:** Staying healthy by practicing hygiene keeps you in school/work instead of out.
- **Confidence Boost:** Feeling clean helps you participate, speak up, and try new challenges.

Shark Tank Prep



Know Your Audience

Who Are You Trying to Convince?

- Who would actually buy this?
- What do THEY care about?
- What problems do THEY have?



Strong pitches feel personal, not general. You are convincing someone they have a problem and that YOU are the solution.

8th Grade LEAP Class
Social Media Use

Students learned marketing and advertising strategies used by companies and how to apply them to their own projects. (a bit of nostalgia for the teachers too!)

Miscellaneous

PHS Participation

Dr. Siders in the house!

Students had to bring their "baby" to a "check up" in the library and ask a question of the "doctor" for a signature and a sticker.



Roanoke Public Library Teen Librarian

