

Learning Scenario

Grade Level: Intermediate, K – 16 (adaptable)

Theme: Living History

Topic: TROJAN HORSE COMES TO LIFE

Overview: A Trojan Horse re-enactment allows for depth in experiential project based learning. It targets not only cognitive dissonance, but affective, sensorimotor and social domains are also employed. The learning community will remember this experience for years to come.

Preview: Students of Modern Greek in New Jersey are introduced to the story of the Trojan Horse through the DVD Greek Mythology for Students Series (DVD) *The Trojan War* Schlessinger Media ~ Teacher's Guides Included and Available Online at: <http://www.libraryvideo.com/guides/m6630.pdf> 800-843-3620 . Fascinated by this classic story their interest is channeled into an expansive interdisciplinary learning project.

Essential Questions: What are the overarching themes of the Trojan Horse story? How are these themes present today?

Targeted Standards

Interpersonal Communication
Interpretive Communication
Presentational Communication
Practices of Culture
Products of Culture
Making Connections
Acquiring Information
Language Comparisons
Cultural Comparisons
School and Community
Lifelong Learning

Sequence of Activities:

1. The art teacher helps the students make shields out of heavier paper plates, and decorate with Greek motifs from Bellerophon Books 800-253-9943 www.bellerophonbooks.com A Coloring Book of the Trojan War: The Iliad Vol. 1, 0-88388-179-9; A Coloring Book of the Trojan War: The Iliad Vol. 2, 0-88388-214-0.
2. Combining math and art classes, students create a symmetrical fortress for Troy and build a Trojan Horse onto a wagon.
3. In language arts, students are reading accounts of the Trojan War and writing mini epics themselves or mini biographies of the main characters, they also select a character neck tag which represents the character they will play in the re-enactment.
4. Social studies classes are coloring maps showing where all those involved with this war are coming from and the paths they sailed.
5. In world language class, students learn to pronounce the names of the main characters in Greek and learn a few Greek phrases to be used in the re-enactment. In more advanced classes, they read a selection of the epic in a Modern Greek translation.
6. Music and physical education classes create and practice a chorus style dance which will represent the battle itself.

7. Technology is used throughout all the disciplines for research and enrichment.
8. Science classes investigate the types of foods eaten and why, on the ships as well as during the battle, and the weight and transportation of all the equipment needed.
9. Finally, all culminate in an actual re-enactment of the Trojan War on a school field.

Follow-up Activities: Students research other stories and sagas to recreate as they did this classical one.

Reflection:

This scenario exemplifies interdisciplinary process learning from its very beginning to life long application. Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices, perspectives, and values of the Greek culture past and present, and humanity in general. Discussing the personalities of the main characters and their roles, allows one to reflect on their own character development. This scenario is community based, because each person or group plays a critical role, which has a direct relationship on how the story is re-enacted and experienced by all.