

Stephanie Gordon
EDSL 560: Assignment #7 – Pathfinder
Fall 2013

Ancient Egypt Pathfinder

2nd Grade SOL Topic: Ancient Egypt

History:

SOL 2.1 The student will explain how the contributions of ancient China and Egypt have influenced the present world in terms of architecture, inventions, the calendar, and written language.

Geography SOL:

SOL 2.4 The student will develop map skills by
a) locating the United States, China, and Egypt on world maps;
b) understanding the relationship between the environment and culture of ancient China and Egypt.

Computer Technology:

C/T SOL K-2.4 Plan and apply strategies for gathering information, using a variety of tools and sources, and reflect on alternate strategies that might lead to greater successes in future projects.

A. Identify information in various formats.

- Recognize that information may be presented as printed text, electronic text, audio, video, or images.

B. Identify available sources of information.

- Be able to name and use sources of information available at school and outside the school.

English:

Oral Language SOL 2.3 The student will use oral communication skills.

a) use oral language for different purposes: to inform, to persuade, to entertain, to clarify, and to respond.

b) share stories or information orally with an audience.

Reading SOL 2.9 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.

Reading SOL 2.10 The student will demonstrate comprehension of information in reference materials.

a) Use table of contents.

b) Use pictures, captions, and charts.

c) Use dictionaries, glossaries, and indices.

d) Use online resources.

Writing SOL 2.12 The student will write stories, letters, and simple explanations.

- a) Generate ideas before writing.
- b) Organize writing to include a beginning, middle, and end for narrative and expository writing.
- c) Expand writing to include descriptive detail.
- d) Revise writing for clarity.

Rationale/Introduction

I selected Ancient Egypt as a pathfinder topic because it is one that generally excites the majority of 2nd grade students. There are so many cultural aspects to be researched, such as the pyramids, the Sphinx, hieroglyphics, mummies, and a multitude of gods and goddesses, all of which are supported in the 2nd grade History and Social Sciences Standards of Learning. Students in the United States are usually in awe of the great cultural aspects of Egypt and I wanted to create a pathfinder to help young 2nd grade students find means of exploring these great contributions. The 2nd grade classroom teachers assign the students a diorama project and paper as a culminating activity at the end of the Ancient Egypt unit. The pathfinder is used as an aide to assist the students in their research process and a means of reinforcing strong research skills at a young academic age.

Collaboration

The lead 2nd grade teacher approached the librarian and said the 2nd grade teachers always have the students create a final project after the completion of the Ancient Egypt unit, but they wanted something a little different this year. The librarian immediately had an idea in regards to creating a pathfinder and explained the purpose of it to the lead teacher. With all 2nd grade teachers on board, the librarian met with them during an afternoon planning meeting and discussed what the teachers expect from their student's projects and what SOLs the students were required to achieve through this culminating activity.

The teachers and librarian agreed that students should be paired to create a diorama of a topic of their choosing related to Ancient Egypt and its cultural contributions to the world. The assignment would be an in class project and would include a short paper and oral report about their diorama to the class. The teacher's role in this collaboration was to teach the core content of Ancient Egypt and the librarian would create a pathfinder for the students. The pathfinder would aide these young researchers in their search for information, cut down the time it would take them to find the information on their own, and provide them with tools for becoming efficient researchers in the future. The librarian was also going to conduct a brief overview of research resources with the students prior to their project, to reinforce their understanding of the various research tools and their purposes. The librarian was also going to do a mini lesson with the 2nd grade classes about proper citation. The classroom teachers would provide book and website names to the librarian that they found useful within their own classroom.

The school librarian and 2nd grade teachers agreed that this diorama project would take the students a solid three weeks to complete, with the fourth week being student presentations during the class's weekly library period. Students have a fixed library schedule of forty-five minutes a week, so three classes would be used to find a topic and research that topic. Students are required to use five resources, two of which will be online resources. All resources must be cited and

students must write the information they find in their own words. The librarian will give a brief talk about plagiarism during the course of this project. The classroom teacher will be responsible for a lesson on proper citations in the MLA format. Students will practice in the classroom with worksheets the librarian provides the teacher. The students will complete the research in the library and the diorama and paper in the classroom. If all information is found prior to the three weeks, then the students can begin producing their paper in the library.

The librarian and 2nd grade teachers agreed to share information throughout the course of this project and set a date to meet in person after all dioramas had been presented. They will keep notes on the pros and cons and what modifications need to be made to the collaboration and the teachers and librarians will also discuss each student's work together. The students will receive a library skills grade along with this assignment.

Statement of Impact on Student Learning

With the aide of this pathfinder and upon completion of this diorama, it is expected by the school librarian and 2nd grade teachers that the students will have achieved the following:

- ability to access information from various resources
- ability to utilize resources for their intended purposes and use resources previously unfamiliar to them, to include new print and online resources
- organize information in an orderly manner
- evaluate information
- properly cite sources
- produce a product based on guidelines in a timely manner
- have a greater appreciation for the contributions the Egyptians made to the world
- create a diorama from Ancient Egypt topic
- orally present diorama to a group

Formats

Databases: Students will use online databases to research cultural contributions made by the Ancient Egyptians.

Dictionaries: Students will use print and online dictionaries to find the definition of unknown words while researching Ancient Egypt.

Encyclopedias: Students will use online and print encyclopedias to research their chosen topic on Ancient Egypt, to include art, architecture, customs, culture, and Egyptian contributions to the world.

Geographical Sources: Students will use online and print geographical sources to locate Egypt on the map/globe and describe Egypt's environment. Students will further their map skills while researching Ancient Egypt with these resources.

Library Catalog: Students will use the online school library catalog to locate nonfiction books and reference resources located within the school library.

Websites: Students will use age appropriate websites to further explore and research their topics on Ancient Egypt.



Destination Diorama

Ancient Egypt

Travels and Tales by:
Mrs. Gordon's 2nd Grade
Caravan

Use this pathfinder to guide and help you find your way through the cultural contributions of Ancient Egypt. Carefully saddle up on your camel and ride right into the world of research. This pathfinder provides you with great print and online resources that will take you directly to the contributions the Ancient Egyptians made to the rest of the world. You are required to use five resources, two of which can be online, when creating your Ancient Egypt diorama. Your classroom teachers will help guide you with creating your actual dioramas and writing papers and the librarian will assist you with all the research questions you have. Don't be afraid to ask questions, as there is a lot of information about Egypt in our library and online. Select a topic that interests you to make this diorama great. Remember, when finding information – ALWAYS use your own words and give proper credit to the source.

Pathfinder Resources

Databases

Looking for a great picture of the pyramids? Want to know how to make papyrus? These sites will help you find all the information you will need to know about the topic you selected on Egypt. Type keywords into the search box that are related to your topic and you will find articles, pictures, newspapers, and government documents all about your subject. Be sure to type in multiple keywords or be very specific about your selected topic that way you get information more tailored to your search.

- http://auth.grolier.com/login/go_login_page.html?bffs=N (type in last name and first initial for user and 123abc for password)
- <http://www.pebblego.com/login.php> (type in WHES for user and 123abc for password)
- <http://www.finditva.com> (type your keywords into the search box)

Dictionaries

Use this resource to look up the meaning of words you do not understand.

- Merriam-Webster Online <http://www.merriam-webster.com>
 - You can use this site as a dictionary or a thesaurus.
- REF 421 DIC *Scholastic Children's Dictionary*

Encyclopedias

This resource gives you overall information about your chosen topic with lots of pictures, diagrams, and maps. From the basic search of your topic you can get more and more detailed by searching related subjects. Remember they are in alphabetical order by subject.

- World Book Online
<http://www.worldbookonline.com/wb/Login?ed=wb&tu=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.worldbookonline.com%2Fstudent%2Fhome> (type in last name and first initial for user and abc123 for password)
- REF 031 SCH *Scholastic Children's Encyclopedia*
- REF 031 WBE *World Book Encyclopedia, 2002 Edition, Book 6(E)*

Geographical Resources

Use these resources to help you locate Egypt on a map and learn more about the land features of the country. You can also find information about population, the flag, economics, and agriculture, and much more.

- World Atlas – map of Egypt:
<http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/africa/eg.htm>
 - This site has maps of Egypt and Africa. You can also find quick facts about Egypt, see the flag, read all about the geography of Egypt, and learn more about their national symbols.

- National Geographic Kids:
<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/places/find/egypt/>
 - This site has maps, video, facts, and photographs of Egypt.
- These reference books are located on the reference shelves in our library. They will help you locate Egypt on a map and provide you with brief summaries of the country.
 - REF 912 NAT *National Geographic Beginner's World Atlas*
 - REF 912 NAT *National Geographic World Atlas for Young Explorers*

Library Catalog

Use this resource to help you locate books in our school library. You can use the school library catalog during the day at school, or do a little extra research at home in the evenings.

- Washington Henry Elementary School Library Catalog:
<http://hcps2.hanover.k12.va.us/whes/library/library-research.htm>
 - Search by subjects, authors, titles, and keywords.
 - You can search for reference books and nonfiction books about your Egyptian topic.
 - The catalog will give you a brief description of the book and let you know if it is available for checkout.
- Book titles in the school library you might find helpful with your research:
 - 909 SOM *The Dorling Kindersley: History of the World*
 - 932 ALL *Pictures of the Past: The Egyptians*
 - 932 CAT *What did the Ancient Egyptians Do For Me?*
 - 932 HAR *Dorling Kindersley Eyewitness Books: Ancient Egypt*
 - 932 JAY *Read About Ancient Egyptians*
 - 932.01 DEA *Ancient Egypt: Beyond the Pyramids*

Websites

Your teachers and the librarian approve the sites listed below. They contain great information about Egypt and could provide extra research for your topics:

- <http://eaton85.weebly.com/ancient-egypt.html>
 - A visual index of websites created for kids about Egypt, to include mummies, pyramids, timelines, hieroglyphics, and gods.
- <http://www.historyforkids.org/learn/egypt/>
 - Index of Egyptian topics, from history, art, agriculture, pyramids. Great place to start research or find a topic of interest.
- <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/diorama/>
 - This site provides you with samples and ideas of how to create a diorama.

Cite Your Sources (MLA format)

Always give credit where credit is due – cite all your sources. Use the following formats when citing your sources. Citing can be confusing, so ask your teacher or librarian for help.

Nonfiction Books

Author's name (last name, first name). Title. Place of publication: Publisher, copyright date.

Reference Books (i.e. Encyclopedias, dictionaries, almanacs, atlas)

No author listed:

“Article Title.” Book Title. Date of publication.

Author listed:

Author's name (last name, first name). “Article Title.” Book Title. Date of publication.

Websites

Title of Website. Date of webpage. Publisher/Author. Date of access. Website address

You are also encouraged to use online citation sources. Two easy to use citation sources are:

<http://www.easybib.com>

<http://www.citationmachine.net>



Enjoy your travels through Egypt!