

The Great Barrier Reef

Grade 4 – 6

Objective

Students Goal: The students should be able to write a paper on the Great Barrier Reef. Students will use Zotero to organize all of the information that they have found.

Materials

Computers, dictionaries, Firefox, and Zotero
Markers, paper, and posters

Procedure

1. Begin by discussing where the Great Barrier Reef is and what the Great Barrier Reef is.
2. After having a group discussion, have the students jot down facts that they already know about the Great Barrier Reef.
3. *Make sure you save a date for the students to go to the library and use dictionaries and the internet.
4. The students will be writing a small research paper on the Great Barrier Reef.
5. The paper should include:
 - The location of the reef.
 - The number of reefs there are.
 - Five different animals that live in the reef.
 - A few facts that the students find online about the reef.
 - An outline.
 - The outline should be made with Zotero helping the students organize their information.
6. The outline and paper will be written in class so that I am able to help the students if they have questions with Zotero.
7. Since the students will be writing their papers in school, they will be making a visual representation of the Great Barrier Reef.
 - Ex. A poster, 3-d model, etc.
8. Each student will present their paper and visual representation of the reef to the class.

Evaluation

1. The students should understand the basics of Zotero.
2. Their visual representations of the Great Barrier Reef should be colorful and represent the Great Barrier Reef very well.
3. The students should be able to stand up in front of their class and present their paper and visual representation.

Standards

4.3.3

- The World in Spatial Terms: Identify the northern, southern, eastern and western hemispheres; cardinal and intermediate directions; and determine the direction and distance from one place to another.

4.7.6

- Provide a beginning, middle, and an end to oral presentations, including details that develop a central idea.

4.7.9

- Engage the audience with appropriate words, facial expressions, and gestures.

5.7.12

- Make informational presentations that:
 - Focus on one main topic.
 - Include facts and details that help listeners focus.
 - Incorporate more than one source of information (including speakers, books, newspapers, television broadcasts, radio reports, or Web sites).

All standards given from:
<http://www.in.gov/>
