

Lesson Plan Outline: Lake Pontchartrain Basin

The Well-6th Grade Reading

Mrs. Dwyer

Standards: **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.1:** Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.,

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.2: Determine a theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments

Objectives:

- Students will become familiar with the Pontchartrain Basin in Louisiana and Mississippi.
- Students will develop an understanding of the importance of water based environments, environmental and water conservation, and the benefits and risks of maintaining ecological balance in the modern world.
- Students will connect this new knowledge with Mildred D. Taylor's *The Well*.
- Students will consider how their own water usage affects the world around them.

Materials: Watershed reading sheet, Guided Imagery script, Lake Pontchartrain Basin slideshow, Quiz, Water Consumption worksheet, chart paper, markers, notetaking materials, whiteboard & dry erase markers OR electronic whiteboard, drawing materials.

Procedure:

- Provide students with reading sheet on watersheds. Give them time to read the information carefully with a partner. Encourage students to highlight information that they deem important or take notes. While students are reading, rotate throughout the room to monitor progress and answer questions.
- Show slideshow on the Pontchartrain Basin. Encourage student input and questions. Invite students to take notes. Post slides to Google Classroom for student reference after class.
- Lead a class discussion based on the questions posed on slide 8, connecting the Pontchartrain Basin to *The Well*.
- Lead students through the Guided Imagery activity. This is best achieved with the lights off and students' eyes closed in a relaxed environment. If students need it, deep breathing exercises to calm the room may be beneficial before starting.

- At the conclusion of the exercise, provide students with paper with which to create an artistic representation of their experience.
- Provide students with the water consumption worksheet. Review instructions on the sheet. Assign students to complete the sheet before the next class.
- Remind students to prepare for a quiz tomorrow.

Day 2:

- Invite students to lead a discussion regarding their water usage.
- Create a number line of water usage in gallons using students' results.
- Categorize data into segments and create a class bar graph (step by step, on the board/chart paper so that each student is familiarized/reviewed on the process of creating a bar graph.
- Discuss ways to reduce water waste (slideshow).
- Give students quiz to assess understanding.

Later:

- Review quizzes to determine student understanding. Determine if class needs additional instruction or if certain students need additional guidance.