



HUMANITIES AND THE SUNSHINE STATE

TEACHING FLORIDA'S CLIMATES
In partnership with the Florida Humanities Council

JUNE 19-23, 2017 GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA

ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE

Teacher(s):

Katrina Madok, Kathy Poe, Denise Pristas

Grade(s):

4th

Subject(s):

ELA, Science, Social Studies

Title of Lesson: Flush This!

Learning Objectives: Many misconceptions exist on what happens when we flush – what amount of water is used, where it goes, and how it gets there. Incorporating a well-known novel with a PBL activity will provide students with the opportunity to learn real-world facts and flush away those inaccurate ideas and wasteful options. Students will be able to improve our current format of working with waste and develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of their involvement in creating a meaningful system to meet future waste removal and conservation needs.

Standards Addressed:

SC.4.17.4 – Recognize ways plants & animals, including humans, can impact the environment

SS.4.A.4.1-Explain the effects of technological advances on FL (boats, delivery of water, etc.)

Lesson Outline:

Hook – Display a pile of crap! Be inventive and use chocolate pudding with grass and crushed food items. Mold into a well-defined pile of crap prior to lesson.

Brainstorm – What is this and where does it go?

Prereading discussion of prior knowledge about Florida's ecosystems and problems that humans cause.

Read & discuss the novel, Flush by Carl Hiaasen.

Use Systems Thinking Connection charts to make connections as to cause/effect relationships that occur with humans and Florida's water systems.

Plan for group projects/Produce group projects (see Assessment)

Systems thinking connection (learning habits and/or tools used): Students will be given the option to select a systems thinking strategy from given charts.

Learning Strategies:

Whole group – brainstorming discussions

Small group – reading and discussing novel chapters

Partner work – project-based follow-up assignments

Science Concept(s):

Interdependence

Humanities Concept(s):

Effects of population growth

Acceptance and ethical uses of waste/sewer treatment and water

Student Assessment Strategies:

Culminating Digital Project, model building or inventive device to properly transport waste and to reduce water usage - summative

Reading Quizzes - formative

Benefit to my students:

Students will be able to make connections across the curriculum and be able to make wise decisions that will benefit the environment. They will connect better to concepts that affect them – waste is universal in all humans. Creating real-world awareness, and the completion of this learning unit, will create an emphasis on the need to be conscious of our actions as well as positive/negative consequences if no changes are made.

Resources and Materials (supplies needed for activities): Carl Hiassen's Flush, Creative Thinking Charts, Poop Model, Digital Devices