We know that it’s not always possible to develop and implement a new lesson plan in a busy curriculum. How do you envision incorporating our experiences in your classroom teaching?

Teacher(s): Janet Jacupke  
Grade(s): 5th - 9th  
Subject(s): Language Arts + Reading + Social Studies 

Idea 1  
Climate Change Vocabulary  
ex: anthropocene

Learning Goals/Standards  
context clues/vocab acquisition

Idea 2  
Visualizing Climate Change  
Taking the concept + making it tangible + real

Learning Goals/Standards  
"The Lost City of Miami"  
short story writing  
"Spring Break in Orlando Beach"

Idea 3  
Climate Change + Civic Responsibility  
Seeing the issue as a duty of citizenship

Learning Goals/Standards  
Civics/Citizenship duties  
benefits of active participation  
* compare/contrast to voting
Idea 4: Climate Change + Personal Commitment
Brainstorm the Green Action Checklist for our classroom + at home.
"Generation Us"

Learning Goals/Standards
- Critical thinking + application

Idea 5: Climate Change is Research-Based!
Looking at data + graphs on carbon emissions + water levels.

Learning Goals/Standards
- Using graphs, charts

Idea 6: Climate Change events display specific cause + effect relationships

Learning Goals/Standards
- Cause / effect relationships

What additional resources do you need in order to act on these ideas?

Any posters, DVDs, or keepsakes such as stickers, rubber bracelets, etc help to keep the concepts in front of the middle school mind. Reminders that are visual + kinaesthetic help imprint the concept of the subject as important + lasting.
Teacher(s): Janet Jacupke
Grade(s): 5th → 9th
Subject(s): Language Arts + Reading + Social Studies
Title of Lesson: Climate Change Awareness: A Civic Responsibility?
Learning Objectives:
- Climate change affects our communities and is an anthropogenic event. As a responsible citizen, we must be active and aware of the issue.

Standards Addressed (if applicable):
- Vocabulary acquisition
- Civic duty
- Short story writing
- Graphs/charts/data interpretation

Lesson Outline:
- Using simple graphs, students will review rise of carbon emissions and water levels over the last 2 centuries.
- Compare to climate change as an anthropogenic event.
- Brainstorm/visualize the progression of this trend across the next 100 years.
- Critical thinking discussion of individual duty and responsibility as a citizen to promote positive change.
Learning Strategies:
Students will connect visually through graphs, photos and charts. Students will share personal experiences with the class and brainstorm concepts about change and the future. Students will focus on a personal connection to positive change.

Science Concept(s):
Climate change as an anthropogenic issue that may be positively affected through civic commitment.

Humanities Concept(s):
As "citizens of humanity" we must reflect positive change through writing, visual, and social action. We must communicate and energize the need for awareness across social class and generations.

Technique(s)/Resource(s) Incorporated from Teaching Florida's Climates Workshop:
* Framing climate change education through a personal accountability focus. It will continue to get worse if we don't act to make it better!

Student Assessment Strategies:
Student will demonstrate awareness and acquisition of new concepts through their choice of:
- Climate change themed short story
- Creation of proposed improvement in carbon emissions based on Green Action strategies
- Creation of a Green Action Plan for our class.

Benefit to my students:
- Heightened awareness of a hot topic
- Vocabulary to understand the resources associated with climate change
- An opportunity to exercise personal responsibility and feel connected to civic duty.

Resources and Materials (supplies needed for activities):
- Pictures, posters, graphs/charts from our workshop
- White board + dry erase markers
- Flip chart paper + markers

Extensions:
* Appointment of a daily "Lights off" Monitor
* Student team to install reflective window film
* Campus "Clean Team" or "Green Team" for extra credit.