

Name: _____

Fourth of July Lesson Plan

Supplies

Download these ESL resources at www.elcivics.com

- Fourth of July Worksheet
- Fireworks Video (If interactive whiteboard is available.)
- Family BBQ Read Aloud
- Potato Salad Recipe
- Independence Day Picnic
- Fireworks Safety - Printing Practice
- Fourth of July Crossword Puzzle
- Independence Day PowerPoint and Handouts*

Objectives

Students will be able to do the following:

1. Understand the significance of Independence Day.
2. Follow safety procedures when using fireworks.
3. Read written material aloud in a group.
4. Understand and follow a recipe. (potato salad)
5. Write sentences about an Independence Day picnic.
6. Solve a crossword puzzle using clues.
7. Share their Fourth of July plans with classmates.

Warm-Up (10 minutes)

Write the sentences on the board.

- July 4th is Independence Day.
- It is a holiday to honor the Declaration of Independence.
- The Declaration of Independence announced the birth of the United States.
- People have barbecues during the day and watch fireworks at night.

Directions: Have the students copy the sentences. Read them aloud several times. Explain the use of capital letters. Lead the class in a listen/repeat exercise. Select several students to read the sentences aloud to the class.

Introduction (1 minutes)

Preview: Let the students know that today's subject is Independence Day. Tell them that they are going to learn why the Fourth of July is important, which country the United States gained its independence from, how to make potato salad, and some fireworks safety tips.

Presentation (4 minutes)

Listening: Tell the class how you celebrated the Fourth of July when you were a kid. Did your family buy fireworks or attend a public display? Were you allowed to hold sparklers? Did you have a barbecue or a picnic?

and then ...

(10 minutes) Online Photos Lesson: If you have an interactive whiteboard, go to http://www.elcivics.com/esl_fourth_of_july.html and show the Fourth of July lesson to the class. Discuss the photos.
and then ...

(10 minutes) PowerPoint: If you have an interactive whiteboard in the room, show the ppt presentation to the class while reading the information and discussing the pictures. If you don't have an interactive whiteboard, pair the students and give them printouts of the ppt slides.*

Practice
(15 minutes) Fourth of July Worksheet: Have the students complete the true-false, matching, and sentence correction exercises. Review and correct.

Presentation
(15 minutes) BBQ Read Aloud: Read the worksheet to the class 2x. Instruct the students to repeat the sentences the second time. Put the students in small groups and have them read the worksheet to each other. Ask for a volunteer to read to the class. Discuss what makes a great BBQ.
and then ...

(15 minutes) Potato Salad Recipe: Review the ingredients and measurements. If you can, bring measuring cups and spoons from home. Read the recipe directions aloud to the class before assigning the worksheet. Have a volunteer write the answers on the board.

Practice
(15 minutes) Independence Day Picnic: After students complete the sentence writing activity, instruct them to exchange papers with a classmate.

and then ...
(10 minutes) Fireworks Safety: Discuss firework safety. Tell student whether or not your city allows legal fireworks. Read the handout to the class before passing it out. Read it again after they have completed the tracing exercise. Show the fireworks video on the interactive board.

Evaluation
(15 minutes) Crossword Puzzle: Have students complete the Fourth of July crossword puzzle. Pass out several markers and have students write the answers on the board. Discuss the vocabulary words and clues.

Application
(15 minutes) Wrap Up: Ask each student what he or she will do on the Fourth of July holiday. Ask follow up questions to elicit further information. For example: What will you eat? Who will you eat with? Will you have a picnic or barbecue? Are fireworks legal in your city? Are you going to buy fireworks?

*PowerPoint Handouts: Click on the ppt and wait for it to open. Right click on the first slide. Select "Print". Below "Print what:" select "Handouts". Make sure "Slides per page" is set to 6.

TOTAL TIME
~ 2 hours

Visit www.elcivics.com for lessons on civics, history, holidays, lifeskills, famous Americans, and geography. The site includes free worksheets, puzzles, ppts, and videos.