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2008 Derrick's to Desks Seminar/C.S.U.B. credit

I teach 2nd grade at Roosevelt, a Reading First School, B.C.S.D.

Because I teach at a Reading First School, closely monitored and under program improvement, we are not allowed to use "outside" or "teacher-created lessons". However, I found many Houghton Mifflin lessons in which I could use the information presented during the Derricks to Desks seminar. The lessons are straight out of California Standards and Houghton Mifflin Social Studies and Science textbooks. However, I will list a few of the different lesson objectives and list areas that I now have a better understanding of, and will be better prepared to present after attending the 3-day seminar.

Objective 1: (earth Sciences, C.S.S. 3.0) Students understand that earth provides resources. (vocab.= resources)

As a basis for understanding this concept, students will learn that rock, water, plants, and soil provide many resources (including fuel) that we use.

Objective 2: (Sci. text, Unit C, chapter 6) Rocks, soil, and fossils Students learn that soil contains tiny bits of dead plants and animals.

Objective 3: (Sci. text, unit C, chapter 7) Using and Saving resources Students learn where resources come from?

Objective 4: (History-social sci. C.S.2.0) Students learn about people who make a difference in everyday lives, including people who supply goods and services.

Objective 5: (History-Social sci. C.S. 2.4) Students understand the role and interdependence of buyers and sellers of goods and services.

At the Kern County museum, they presented a complete overview of how oil is created, where it comes from, different methods of discovery and extraction throughout history, and the creation of the many products we use today. We learned that fossil fuels are not just "the remains of dead dinosaurs". Fossil fuels are the decomposition of many living things. Millions of years ago, dead plants and animals slowly decomposed into organic materials and formed fossil fuels. Different types of fossil fuels were formed depending on the environment. This effects how I teach about rocks, soils, and fossils.

We learned important facts, like the fact that Kern County provides 64% of California's oil production. These concepts will be very interesting to my students because many of them have family that work in the oil fields. They really have no idea what it is that their "dad" is doing out there.

During presentations, we learned about the thousands of products made using petrochemicals. Gasoline is our main use, but it is also used to make many more products that we use on a daily basis: crayons, dishwashing liquids, eyeglasses and tires.

We learned that crude oil is a fossil fuel that is found beneath the Earth's surface. We learned that an underground "oil reservoir" looks very much like any other rock formation, and that the oil exists as tiny droplets trapped inside the open spaces inside the rocks.

We discussed the fact that here in the U.S., our need for oil surpasses the amount we can produce, so we import.

In 2nd grade science, we teach about sound waves. We learned that scientists can determine the characteristics of the rocks underground, using the fact that sound travels at different speeds through different types of rocks.

We learned the basics of what happens at a refinery and how necessary it is to recycle oil. We got to see the natural seeps.

I cannot teach the basics of what I learned to my 2nd grade students through a lesson. But what I learned will affect the daily lessons during social studies and science instruction.