Enduring Understanding

There are many people who live differently from us. Their ways of life are important too. The rainforest should be protected not only for its plants and animals but also the indigenous people who live in them.

Lesson Focus

This lesson focuses on indigenous people of the rainforest, some specific groups, their culture and how we can help them.

MSLR

1. English: Processes of Writing and Speaking: “Improve their finished product by revising content from draft to final piece.”

2. Social Studies: Civics and Government: “Compare a foreign culture to that of the United States.”

3. Social Studies: Geography: “…explain how the physical environment supports and constrains human activities.”

4. Social Studies: Economics: “Explain how selected cultures or countries meet basic human needs.

5. Visual and Performing Arts: “Create original works using different media, techniques, and processes to communicate ideas, feelings, and meaning.

6. Visual and Performing Arts: “Explain how cultural values are shown through the arts.”
Question

Who lives in the rainforest? (which people) What are some of their customs?

Evaluation

1. Finished molita with poem

Method

Guided Practice: Hand out poems with comments on them and give each student new diamond poem sheet to fill in. Help them correct or finalize their poems on new piece of paper.

Teacher Input: Explain a little bit about some of the indigenous cultures in the rainforest. Explain molitas, who makes them, and what they’re used for and show sample.

Independent Practice: Give kids yarn, paperboard and glue and let them create their own molitas. Walk around and help out when needed.

Closure

Have everyone sit or stand in a circle so we can all see the molitas and let some kids who haven’t already read their poems out loud present their finished product. Tell them that the rest can read theirs at the rainforest party next week. Add in a little information about how we can help protect the rainforest for these people.
Materials

Information about indigenous cultures
Pictures of real molitas
Sample molita
paperboard cutouts
small pieces of yarn
Elmer’s glue
corrected poems
paper to write poems on

Definitions

molita= little mola= applique designs used on blouses and decorations (we’re making imitation ones out of yarn)