Conversation Curriculum

Telling Stories: Describe a Trip or Vacation

Learning Objective:
1. Students will describe and discuss travel experiences
2. Students will inquire and make statements about travel experiences using what, how and where.

Before class: Review the lesson plan and make copies of vacation clip art pictures for Warm up and Story Questions for They Do as needed. Get US and world map placemats from the resource room.

Warm-up activity (15 minutes): Place vacation clip art pictures in a central location so that all students can reach. As students arrive, have them separate into pairs.
- Each student draws a card and alternate taking turns to describes it to their partner.

I do/We do activity (10 minutes): Put the “What,” “Where” and “How” sheets on a table in a central location for all students to see and explain that they represent: Where you go; How you get there; and What you do there.
- Take one vacation clip art picture and determine which category it falls into. Place it on the appropriate sheet.
- Ask for student volunteers to categorize the remaining pictures, coming up to the table and placing pictures on the sheets. Students will tell the class what the picture is of, what category it belongs in and why it belongs in that category.
- Explain to the students that you are making up a story about your trip, selecting one card from the Where, one from the How, and two cards from the What. Tell the story of your trip (Last week I went on a trip to…). Write your story, 3-4 sentences on the board.
- Ask for two volunteers: a story teller and a writer. The story teller will tell the class the story of the last trip they took, answering the Where, How and What questions. The writer will write the story on the board.
- Ask class if the story answers all three questions and go over any vocabulary as needed.

They do activity (20 minutes):
- Give each pair a Story Questions sheet, a US and a world map placemat.
- One student will interview the other, asking him/her questions about his/her trip. If students cannot think of a story to share, they may make one up from the vacation clip art pictures. Encourage students to use the map placemats to illustrate to their partners where they went.
- Have students swap roles and let the interviewer tell a story about a trip/vacation.
- If time, have students tell the class about their partner’s trip.

**Journal writing (10-15 minutes):** Students will write in their dialog journals about one of the following four topics:
- Respond to the last entry response (i.e. continue the ‘dialog’)
- Introduce yourself to the teacher (for students new to the group)
- Tell me about your last trip/vacation. Where did you go? What did you do? Who went with you?
- What’s your “dream vacation”? Where would you go? What would you do? Who would go with you?
- Free write about a topic of the student’s choice
Where?
What?
How?
Story Questions

1. When was your last trip?

2. Where did you go?

3. Why did you go?

4. How did you travel there? And back?

5. What did you do there?

6. What did you see there?

7. Who did you go with?

8. What was it like?

9. Did you enjoy the trip? Why? Why not?

10. What was your favorite part of the trip?

11. What was your least favorite part?

12. Would you go there again? Why? Why not?

13. Would you recommend this place to your friends? Why? Why not?