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Lesson Plan: Family Traditions During the Christmas Holiday (grades Pre-K-5)

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Lesson Plan

Course/Grade Level:

- Third Grade

Topic/Title:

- Family Traditions during the Christmas Holiday

Historical Time Period(s):

- Contemporary America (1945-present)

Thematic Question:

1. How does your family celebrate the Christmas Holiday?
2. What same traditions does your family do year after year?
3. What family members celebrate the holiday with you?

Standards/Benchmarks/Indicators:

- Social Studies: Geography

Human Systems:

8. Communities may include diverse cultural groups.

Materials/Resources:

1. worksheet with the thematic questions
2. chalkboard, and chalk
3. a web worksheet
4. writing paper

Motivation (Attention Grabber):

- Christmas is coming and it is a time when you and your family may celebrate with other family members. Think of last year's Christmas celebration. How did you and your family celebrate the Christmas holiday? Who did you visit during this time or who came and visited you and your family. Do you decorate the house and if so, how do you decorate? What are some things that you and your family do for Christmas repeatedly?

Activities:

1. First, discuss the upcoming holiday and how many students celebrate Christmas.
2. Next, create a web using students' ideas. (chalkboard)

3. Then have students create their own web. The center of the web will have the words “Christmas Celebrations.” List as many ideas on how your family celebrates Christmas.
4. Students will use their web ideas to create a story about their “Family Traditions for Christmas.”
5. Students will edit their writing with a partner.
6. After editing their writing, each student will rewrite their story for publishing.
7. Students will orally read their stories to the class.
8. Publish stories by placing on the bulletin board right outside our classroom.
9. Follow up Activity: Students will take a questionnaire home during our vacation. They are to interview the oldest person that is at their family's celebration. We will then discuss the answers to the questions. We will look for similarities and differences among the students.

Assessment:

1. 100% of the students will do the written web activity.
2. Students will be graded on their writing assignment by using a writing rubric for grades one to three.
3. 80% of the students will turn in the questionnaire.