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Transcription and Summary: Fourth Grade: Welcome to Fourth Grade with Teacher Nicole

This document serves as a transcription and summary of a Living Lessons Video for fourth-grade students, led by Teacher Nicole Martinez. It outlines the curriculum and activities planned for the year, focusing on local history, geography, and various subjects including math and science.

Curriculum Highlights

Subjects and Themes

- **Human and Animal Studies:** Exploration of the similarities and differences between humans and animals, including specific studies on creatures like cuttlefish and octopuses.
- **Local History and Geography:** Emphasis on the rich history of Southern California, particularly San Diego, including the stories of early settlers and Native Americans, such as the Kumeyaay.
- **Mathematics:** Introduction to fractions, multiplication, and division through engaging activities like using monopoly money and baking brownies.

Activities

- **Field Trips:** Visits to local historical sites, including the Eagle Mine and the Star of India sailing vessel, to

provide hands-on learning experiences.

- **Cultural Celebrations:** Participation in local festivals such as Dia de los Muertos, where students will create altars and sugar skulls.
- **Hands-On Learning:** Encouragement of outdoor exploration and crafting to enhance understanding and retention of knowledge.

Teaching Philosophy

Teacher Nicole emphasizes the importance of combining traditional book learning with hands-on experiences. She believes that engaging students through storytelling and practical activities fosters a deeper understanding of the material. The curriculum is designed to be fun and interactive, making learning enjoyable for both students and parents.

Conclusion

The document concludes with an invitation for families to join in the educational journey, highlighting the exciting opportunities for learning and exploration that await fourth graders. Teacher Nicole expresses her enthusiasm for the year ahead and the many experiences that will enrich the students' understanding of their world.

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- | | |
|---|--|
| 1
00:00:04.670 --> 00:00:06.400
Hello, families and students. | 11
00:00:38.460 --> 00:00:40.290
This year, you'll be looking at |
| 2
00:00:06.950 --> 00:00:09.240
I'm Ms. Nicole Martinez, and I will be | 12
00:00:40.300 --> 00:00:47.090
fractions, and we'll be doing some form drawing similar to this, as well as some |
| 3
00:00:09.250 --> 00:00:11.780
taking you on your fourth grade journey this year. | 13
00:00:47.100 --> 00:00:47.870
Norse mythology. |
| 4
00:00:13.470 --> 00:00:17.420
This year, we will be exploring the human being and the animal. | 14
00:00:49.300 --> 00:00:52.090
And we are going to be looking at the |
| 5
00:00:18.610 --> 00:00:24.540
We'll be looking at some local history and geography of Southern California and | 15
00:00:52.100 --> 00:00:54.110
Native Americans who lived here first. |
| 6
00:00:24.550 --> 00:00:25.020
San Diego. | 16
00:00:54.120 --> 00:00:59.920
The fourth grade student has just come |
| 7
00:00:25.750 --> 00:00:29.780
We will go into a old gold mine called | 17
00:00:59.930 --> 00:01:06.400
out of the nine -year change and is ready to learn all about the world around them. |
| 8
00:00:29.790 --> 00:00:30.500
the Eagle Mine. | 18
00:01:07.530 --> 00:01:12.840
They are ready to explore their local history and geography by starting off |
| 9
00:00:30.510 --> 00:00:33.860
And we will also take a tour of an old | 19
00:01:12.850 --> 00:01:14.340
with learning how to map. |
| 10
00:00:33.870 --> 00:00:35.680
sailing vessel called the Star of India. | 20
00:01:15.730 --> 00:01:18.960
In these sets of videos, we are focusing |

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21
00:01:18.970 --> 00:01:23.180
on the local history and geography of San Diego, California.

22
00:01:24.170 --> 00:01:31.400
This area is rich with so many stories of people who came here in search of gold or

23
00:01:31.410 --> 00:01:33.820
who came here in search of a better place.

24
00:01:34.430 --> 00:01:36.620
We look at the Chinese settlers who came

25
00:01:36.630 --> 00:01:42.500
here by ship and also those people who came across the mountains and through the

26
00:01:42.510 --> 00:01:45.100
Mojave Desert to get here, including Nathaniel Harrison.

27
00:01:45.790 --> 00:01:51.500
We also begin this whole story by talking about the people who were here first, the

28
00:01:51.510 --> 00:01:56.680
Kumeyaay, and all of the rich history that they have here in San Diego.

29
00:01:57.890 --> 00:02:05.920
We talk, too, about those who came and tried to tame this area with religion and

30
00:02:05.930 --> 00:02:11.180
industry, including the Spanish and all of the missions that were built up and

31
00:02:11.190 --> 00:02:12.460
down the coast of California.

32
00:02:13.410 --> 00:02:16.380
One of the funnest things that we did as

33
00:02:16.390 --> 00:02:21.200
a class in fourth grade was stay overnight on a ship called the Star of India.

34
00:02:22.150 --> 00:02:27.580
The Star of India is one of the oldest sailing vessels still floating in the

35
00:02:27.590 --> 00:02:30.140
harbor of the Embarcadero in San Diego.

36
00:02:30.950 --> 00:02:33.340
It is a place that you can tour as a

37
00:02:33.350 --> 00:02:36.200
museum and also have an experience with the class.

38
00:02:37.170 --> 00:02:41.720
One of the funnest things we got to do was learn sea shanties while we were on board.

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39

00:02:42.470 --> 00:02:47.460

The sun and the winds don't go, and it's time for us to leave her.

40

00:02:49.710 --> 00:02:53.600

This is one of the drawings that is offered in these videos of the Star of

41

00:02:53.610 --> 00:02:58.920

India, and it is so fun when you're learning about this ship to sing along to

42

00:02:58.930 --> 00:03:00.080

some of the sea shanties.

43

00:03:01.090 --> 00:03:07.060

So we'll roll the old chariot along We'll

44

00:03:07.070 --> 00:03:16.440

roll the old chariot along We'll roll the old chariot along And we'll all hang on

45

00:03:16.450 --> 00:03:22.240

behind Why a drop of Nelson's blood Wouldn't do us any harm

46

00:03:22.250 --> 00:03:26.160

A drop of Nelson's blood Wouldn't do us any harm

47

00:03:26.170 --> 00:03:32.620

A drop of Nelson's blood Wouldn't do us any harm And we'll all hang on behind

48

00:03:33.270 --> 00:03:38.820

When studying your local history and geography of your area, it is important

49

00:03:38.830 --> 00:03:43.540

to get out and explore by hiking, going out into nature, and finding those

50

00:03:43.550 --> 00:03:46.740

wonderful places that make your area in particular special.

51

00:03:46.750 --> 00:03:52.420

It's also really good to find those local historical figures that were unique or

52

00:03:52.430 --> 00:03:59.500

special, who have stories of interest, who were survivors in their own time and

53

00:03:59.510 --> 00:04:00.240

their own place.

54

00:04:04.030 --> 00:04:06.680

To get a better picture of those people

55

00:04:06.690 --> 00:04:10.580

who came here, we have to understand the geography of the state of California.

56

00:04:11.550 --> 00:04:15.460

How did they move through the mountains when they were coming here through the

- 57
00:04:15.470 --> 00:04:16.040
Mojave Desert?
- 58
00:04:17.050 --> 00:04:19.020
How did they get here by ship?
- 59
00:04:19.770 --> 00:04:22.160
What did they have to do in order to get here?
- 60
00:04:23.170 --> 00:04:25.900
And also, all the places where they settled.
- 61
00:04:26.730 --> 00:04:30.680
We look at what became the capital of the state of California.
- 62
00:04:30.690 --> 00:04:36.800
And the whole story of those people who came here to Gold Rush, for the Gold
- 63
00:04:36.810 --> 00:04:41.000
Rush, but also who ended up staying because of the commerce and business,
- 64
00:04:41.670 --> 00:04:45.840
because they knew that the money was actually in selling the tools to the Gold
- 65
00:04:45.850 --> 00:04:47.260
Rush miners.
- 66
00:04:49.070 --> 00:04:50.780
- It's so important when you're working
- 67
00:04:50.790 --> 00:04:56.500
with your students to give them the bigger picture, the overview, and then
- 68
00:04:56.510 --> 00:04:59.420
bring the lens down into where they are.
- 69
00:05:09.130 --> 00:05:11.820
I decided to pair the Gold Rush with
- 70
00:05:11.830 --> 00:05:17.020
learning about fractions because it's so fun when you're doing something hard like
- 71
00:05:17.030 --> 00:05:20.280
math to have wonderful stories at the end of every lesson.
- 72
00:05:20.990 --> 00:05:25.880
One of the most favorite things my students have enjoyed through these past
- 73
00:05:25.890 --> 00:05:31.600
few years with me is learning about all the wonderful figures in their biographies.
- 74
00:05:31.610 --> 00:05:33.220
They love storytelling.
- 75
00:05:33.950 --> 00:05:36.000
And if you can find a good juicy story,

76

00:05:36.470 --> 00:05:40.640

something that would just be fascinating for them, that would tide them over for

77

00:05:40.650 --> 00:05:41.320

the next lesson.

78

00:05:41.590 --> 00:05:43.860

So they can muddle through learning about

79

00:05:43.870 --> 00:05:46.640

math as long as they know they have a juicy story afterwards.

80

00:05:48.510 --> 00:05:52.800

One of my favorite stories to tell during this block was about Nathan Harrison.

81

00:05:53.430 --> 00:05:56.080

He was born a slave and he had a dream.

82

00:05:56.090 --> 00:05:58.400

He came to California for the Gold Rush,

83

00:05:58.690 --> 00:06:03.300

but he ended up staying in the mountains and he became a warm and loved friend to

84

00:06:03.310 --> 00:06:04.740

the local Native American people.

85

00:06:07.350 --> 00:06:10.520

And with everything you do, try to have

86

00:06:10.530 --> 00:06:13.120

fun and embody it as much as possible.

87

00:06:14.190 --> 00:06:17.980

Go to local historical places like ghost

88

00:06:17.990 --> 00:06:25.080

houses or fun places that maybe you never went to before, an old ranch on the side

89

00:06:25.090 --> 00:06:27.260

of the road or an old farmhouse.

90

00:06:27.270 --> 00:06:32.900

We will also get to experience some of

91

00:06:32.910 --> 00:06:38.500

the local holidays and festivals here in San Diego, one of which is Dia de los

92

00:06:38.510 --> 00:06:44.080

Muertos, where we will discuss how to make an altar de muertos as well as

93

00:06:44.090 --> 00:06:49.280

making some sugar skulls from scratch and decorating them with your student.

94

00:06:50.110 --> 00:06:55.560

It is such a fun experience to do all these activities together.

95

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00:06:56.470 --> 00:07:00.860

While making these videos, I was able to do a lot of these things with my students

96

00:07:00.870 --> 00:07:03.260

and they enjoyed it so much.

97

00:07:05.110 --> 00:07:08.780

The sugar skulls turn out so cute and you

98

00:07:08.790 --> 00:07:13.140

can have a lot of fun with how you decorate them with using glitter and

99

00:07:13.150 --> 00:07:18.000

sequins and beads and lots of different colors of sugar frosting.

100

00:07:28.160 --> 00:07:42.410

Si mi guitarra oyes llorar, ella con su triste canto te acompañará hasta que en

101

00:07:42.420 --> 00:07:46.190

mis brazos tu estés.

102

00:07:47.790 --> 00:07:49.940

There are many different ways to

103

00:07:49.950 --> 00:07:51.720

represent knowledge with your student.

104

00:07:51.730 --> 00:07:54.200

Yes, book work is important.

105

00:07:54.830 --> 00:08:00.500

Handwriting and writing your own unique preparations are important, but also

106

00:08:00.510 --> 00:08:02.680

hands -on experiences are important.

107

00:08:03.530 --> 00:08:05.760

Making things, crafting, going out into

108

00:08:05.770 --> 00:08:12.840

nature, exploring and having a sense of wonder are all key experiences for the

109

00:08:12.850 --> 00:08:13.980

student in fourth grade.

110

00:08:15.370 --> 00:08:17.600

Not only will your student be learning

111

00:08:17.610 --> 00:08:22.360

about fractions, but we will also be following the California Common Core

112

00:08:22.370 --> 00:08:28.740

Curriculum, looking at ways that we can multiply using an array or special

113

00:08:28.750 --> 00:08:29.760

products for division.

114

00:08:30.550 --> 00:08:33.480

We will also be looking at how to work

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115

00:08:33.490 --> 00:08:39.680

with word problems and breaking down fractions into their smallest parts.

116

00:08:40.390 --> 00:08:45.080

We are going to be looking at lots of different ways of using math, including

117

00:08:45.090 --> 00:08:53.360

monopoly money and working with division of fractions by making brownies.

118

00:08:53.950 --> 00:08:58.200

It is such a fun block to experience with your student.

119

00:08:59.250 --> 00:09:05.380

I really strive to make math fun and enjoyable and understandable for both

120

00:09:05.390 --> 00:09:06.580

students and parents.

121

00:14:06.430 --> 00:14:09.540

Each fourth grade block comes with a PDF

122

00:14:09.550 --> 00:14:14.560

that describes the lessons and what is included in each lesson along with

123

00:14:14.570 --> 00:14:19.780

outside resources that you will find available to support your student.

124

00:14:22.480 --> 00:14:28.730

Earth schooling also offers separate watercolor lessons as well as form

125

00:14:28.740 --> 00:14:29.650

drawing lessons.

126

00:14:31.220 --> 00:14:33.730

The human being and the animal block will

127

00:14:33.740 --> 00:14:37.350

be your child's first science block in the Waldorf curriculum.

128

00:14:38.560 --> 00:14:42.210

In Waldorf education, we relate everything back to the human being.

129

00:14:43.120 --> 00:14:47.130

So when we take a look at the animals, we look at all of the ways that they are

130

00:14:47.140 --> 00:14:49.330

similar and different to the human being.

131

00:14:50.160 --> 00:14:53.230

We will look at the head animals such as

132

00:14:53.240 --> 00:14:55.230

the cuttlefish and the octopus.

133

00:14:55.960 --> 00:14:58.930

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We will look at how they move in water.

00:15:27.120 --> 00:15:29.390

They love animals and they love to

134

00:14:59.800 --> 00:15:02.050

What are their natural abilities to camouflage?

144

00:15:29.400 --> 00:15:30.370

explore their world.

135

00:15:02.920 --> 00:15:05.230

How do they defend themselves against attack?

145

00:15:31.460 --> 00:15:34.030

It's so important to get them outside as

136

00:15:05.580 --> 00:15:06.590

How do they eat?

146

00:15:34.040 --> 00:15:37.930

much as possible so that they can observe animals in their natural habitat.

137

00:15:07.280 --> 00:15:08.290

What is their lifespan?

147

00:15:38.920 --> 00:15:40.690

Do you have a bird in a nest nearby?

138

00:15:09.740 --> 00:15:14.730

Once we've taken a look at the cuttlefish, the octopus and animals such

148

00:15:41.800 --> 00:15:44.730

Do you have a mouse who lives under a tree?

139

00:15:14.740 --> 00:15:19.890

as these, starfish included, then we will move on and we will begin to look at

149

00:15:44.740 --> 00:15:46.710

Are there squirrels?

140

00:15:19.900 --> 00:15:22.470

other animals who are land animals.

150

00:15:47.720 --> 00:15:49.870

Are there raccoons or skunks?

141

00:15:23.360 --> 00:15:25.410

This is such a fascinating topic to

151

00:15:50.480 --> 00:15:51.550

What lives in your neighborhood?

142

00:15:25.420 --> 00:15:26.510

children at this age.

152

00:15:52.520 --> 00:15:55.590

And then from there, maybe you could go

143

153

00:15:55.600 --> 00:16:00.030

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and visit a local zoo or maybe there's a wild animal preserve.

00:16:28.160 --> 00:16:30.350
Why are their hooves the way they are?

154
00:16:01.160 --> 00:16:05.690
Maybe you live by the ocean and you can go to a marine sanctuary.

164
00:16:31.640 --> 00:16:35.170
Find out all the most interesting things that you can find out.

155
00:16:06.700 --> 00:16:12.230
Whatever you decide to do, give the children an opportunity to experience

165
00:16:36.120 --> 00:16:42.070
For example, did you know that when a cow gives birth to a baby calf, that baby

156
00:16:12.240 --> 00:16:16.290
every aspect of the animal as much as possible.

166
00:16:42.080 --> 00:16:47.390
calf does not have any bacteria associated with its digestive system and

157
00:16:17.560 --> 00:16:18.390
How do they walk?

167
00:16:47.400 --> 00:16:52.050
so it licks everything it can in order to get all the bacteria it needs.

158
00:16:18.860 --> 00:16:19.870
How do they sleep?

168
00:16:52.880 --> 00:16:57.850
About all of the wonderful animals in the human and animal block, your student will

159
00:16:20.640 --> 00:16:21.470
Do they climb?

169
00:16:57.860 --> 00:17:01.870
also be experiencing fourth grade form drawing, which is one of the most

160
00:16:21.700 --> 00:16:22.330
Do they fly?

170
00:17:01.880 --> 00:17:02.970
beautiful art forms.

161
00:16:23.200 --> 00:16:25.150
What is it that they eat and why?

171
00:17:03.320 --> 00:17:05.850
It requires a lot of concentration and

162
00:16:25.740 --> 00:16:27.670
Why are the teeth the way they are?

172
00:17:05.860 --> 00:17:10.790

163

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focus as the student learns to weave
their forms and color them in beautifully.

173

00:17:11.740 --> 00:17:16.490

Form drawing is such a pivotal activity
that allows the brain to wire and neurons

174

00:17:16.500 --> 00:17:17.110

to connect.

175

00:20:09.120 --> 00:20:11.390

Thank you again for joining me on this

176

00:20:11.400 --> 00:20:12.170

fourth grade journey.

177

00:20:12.700 --> 00:20:15.950

There is so much to learn, to see, and to do.