Wendy DeCann
Social Studies
Cooperative Learning Lesson Plan

Lesson: Life of the Pilgrims

Grades: 4-6

Essential Question:

What was life like for the pilgrims? What did they learn from the Indians?

Objectives:

The students will be review prior information learned about the First Thanksgiving and will learn more about it.

The students will complete the discussion questions.

Materials:

- *The First Thanksgiving* by Jean Craighead George (6 copies)
- The First Thanksgiving Discussion Questions
- Pen/Pencils
- Chart Paper and Marker or Chalk Board/White Board
- Paper for drawing

Prior Knowledge:

- Students will have a basic knowledge of the Pilgrims, Indians and Thanksgiving.

Procedure:

1. Divide the students into 6 groups of 3 - 4 students in each group. Allow a couple of minutes for students to get into their groups.
2. Have the student's number off 1 – 4 in their groups.
3. Assign each number an assignment
   #1's – Recorder
   #2's – Recorder's Helper
   #3's – Reporter
   #4's - Reader
4. Make sure there are no questions within the groups. #1's raise hand – have them state what their jobs is. #2's raise their hand – they say what their job is. #3's and #4's do the same.

5. Ask the students, what do you know about The First Thanksgiving? Write answers on the board. What do you know about Pilgrim's? What do you know about the feast they had on Thanksgiving?
6. Read *The First Thanksgiving* aloud to the class.
7. In their cooperative groups, the students will make a list of how the Indians helped the Pilgrims. Individually the students will draw a picture showing something that the Pilgrims were taught by the Indians.
8. Call on the #2's to come up and pick up The First Thanksgiving discussion questions.
9. Remind the groups as they read the story to read it in their quiet reading voice. In their cooperative groups, the reader (#4's) will read the story to their group. If the #4 in the group needs help, have the (#2's) assist.
10. Have the groups answer the questions in their groups. Allow them 10 minutes to work on the discussion questions. Check in with the groups at 10 minutes to see how it is going. If needed give 3 more minutes.
11. Reconvene the group together (they stay in the cooperative groups). Discuss the answers.

Assessment:

Did the students work cooperatively in their groups?

Was the group able to answer all of the questions?

Was each student able to draw a picture of something that the Pilgrims were taught by the Indians?