



THE CENTURY 21 EXPOSITION, TEACHER RESOURCES

LESSON 3: Mini World’s Fair

Lesson Description:

It has been nearly 50 years since the Century 21 Exposition and over 100 years since the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition. How has Seattle changed since these events? If we were to hold a fair today, what would its theme be? Who would come? What legacy would it leave behind? For this lesson, students will be asked to consider what is important to them, and how we would want to represent our city today by creating a miniature world fair for your school. If your school already holds an annual fair, this is a good opportunity for students to play a role in the planning process. This lesson is designed for students in grade six and above.

Objectives

- Students will identify five+ appropriate sources of information on their topic
- Students will research a topic, and create an exhibit to show their understanding
- Students will identify tasks, split up the workload and work as a team
- Students will create a visual representation (logo) of a concept/theme
- Students will develop a method to assess what makes a logo effective
- Students will research/discuss current events to determine what we value most in our society today
- Students will synthesize information from the five sources to create an exhibit

Potential EALR/GLE Alignments:

	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	2.1	2.2	2.3	3.1	3.2	3.3	4.1	4.2	4.4	5.2	5.3	5.4
<i>Reading</i>				X					X	X								
<i>Writing</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		X	X						
<i>Visual Arts</i>			X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X		X				
<i>Social Studies</i>				X						X			X	X	X	X		X

Potential CBA/CBPA Alignments:

Constitutional Issues	Causes of Conflict	People on the Move	Dig Deep	Why History?	Cultural Contributions
			X		

Materials:

- Computer/Projector
- Visible writing surface for displaying student brainstorms
- Student logo examples
- Century 21 Opening Day Schedule (option A)
- Century 21 Promotional Letter (option A)

Preparation:

Have students bring in an example of a logo for an organization or event to use for discussion during this lesson.

Suggested Teaching Procedure:

1. It has been nearly fifty years since the Century 21 Exposition- time for another world's fair! What would its theme be? Look at current media to see trends, events and/or attitudes that will shape the focus of your fair. Brainstorm ideas as a class.
2. Explain to students that they will be creating a poster fair* based around the theme they think would best fit a Seattle World Fair held today. Using the class brainstorm, choose several themes you think would be appropriate, then have students vote on their favorite.
3. Have students take out their logos from home. Discuss- why did you choose to bring this logo in? Which logos does everyone like/remember? How do culture, friends, family, etc. influence what we like? What message do these logos convey? What are the qualities of a good logo (are they memorable/unique? Do they effectively use of shapes/colors/symbols? Are they an appropriate emblem for the person, place, thing, or idea they represent?).
4. Develop a logo rating rubric as a class.
5. Have students come up a title for their fair, and design a logo focused on the class theme.
6. Have students give a brief presentation explaining the symbolism and intended impact of their creations.
7. Using the logo rating criteria your students developed, have them discuss the logos in teams and vote on which logo/title they like best (you may want to select several logos/titles to narrow the selection).

Mini Fair Option A*

8. Now that your class has a fair logo and title, discuss exhibits and attractions they that would fit well with their theme. How would they divide up the fairgrounds? What would they need to build? What attractions could they offer? Come up with a class list of fair areas or topics. If students are having trouble coming up with ideas, have them refer back to examples from Century 21.
9. Select several topics from the class list and use them to create exhibit teams. Explain that each team will be responsible for creating a freestanding display on their assigned topic that exemplifies the overarching theme of the fair. Displays should include both visual and text based content.
10. As part of the planning process, have teams identify five sources of information on their topic, develop questions to guide inquiry, decide on what the educational goals of their exhibit will be (what do we want our "visitors" to learn?), and decide what sort of information they will need to provide to meet their educational goals.
11. Have teams come up with a title for their exhibit and write a draft three or four sentence introductory label (this can be changed as needed).
12. Have teams create a list of labels and other materials they will need to create.
13. Have teams split up the list of tasks, and create a sketch of what their exhibit will look like.
14. Have team members give feedback on each other's label drafts and revise them to improve the text and make sure they are writing in an appropriate style.
15. Have students proofread their own drafts for capitalization, spelling, punctuation, usage rules, paragraph conventions, citations, etc. Ask students to use editing resources to help them identify and correct errors.



16. As a class, discuss the best location for the fair (gym, outside, classroom, etc.) and brainstorm the best layout for the exhibits in terms of aesthetics, themes, and logistics (lighting, noise, size, access to power, etc.).
17. If you are able to invite parents or other classes to your fair, have students look at the Century 21 Opening Day Schedule and plan their own events. Discuss- what speakers could they invite (principal, local experts, etc.)? What sort of entertainment could they provide? How could they advertise?
18. Show students the Century 21 Promotional Letter. Have them design creative promotional materials for other grades, friends, family, etc. in a variety of forms/genres.

Mini Fair Option B*

8. Turn existing curriculum into an exhibit. Assign your project as usual, but have students showcase their work in a visual symposium format that aligns with their fair's theme (for example, if the fair's theme is human impact on the environment and you usually have students write a report on a major invention, have students create displays showing green technologies).
9. If you are able to invite parents or other classes to your fair, have students look at the Century 21 Opening Day Schedule and plan their own events. Discuss- what speakers could they invite? What sort of entertainment could they provide? How would they advertise?
10. Show students the Century 21 fill in the blank letter. Have them take turns reading it out loud.
11. Have students design creative promotional materials for their fair in a variety of forms/genres that they can give to other classes and/or their family.

* Rather than building a poster fair, your students could do the same thing in an online format using resources such as Wix.com or glogster.com.