

Jamaica...“We have a sled dog team!”

Developed by: Erin Montgomery, 2015 Iditarod Teacher on the Trail™

Discipline: Social Studies and Language Arts

Topic: Culture - Comparing Jamaican musher, Newton Marshall to the Jamaican Bobsled team

Grade Level: 7th - can be modified to do with any grade level

Resources / References / Materials Teacher Needs:

1. Cool Runnings reading
2. Jamaican Culture writing part 1
3. Cool Runnings video clip:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZLQkCemE_Xs&list=PL9VdHWaCu6r6N0H8jdAy3jOokhKfU8qPj
4. Newton Marshall reading
5. Thinglink - <https://www.thinglink.com/>
6. Thinglink assignment sheet
7. Jamaican Culture writing part 2

Lesson Summary: Students will be reading short informative articles about the Jamaican Bobsled Team and Newton Marshall (Iditarod musher). Students will create an interactive image sharing the information they learned.

Standard's Addressed: Common Core

1. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.7 Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.
2. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.9 Compare and contrast the information gained from experiments, simulations, video, or multimedia sources with that gained from reading a text on the same topic.
3. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.WHST.6-8.1.b Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence that demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text, using credible sources.

Learning objectives:

1. Students will be able to analyze a short reading about Jamaican culture.
2. Students will be able to design an interactive image displaying information they learned from the readings.

Procedural Activities:

1. Question to class - What types of things are part of “culture”?
2. List student responses on the board (religion, food, language, music, celebrations, sports, etc)
3. Question to class - What type of sports do you think are played in Jamaica?
4. List responses on the board
5. If not listed on the board - Let students know of two sports that are odd to find in Jamaica. Bobsledding and dog-sledding.
6. Have students read the *Cool Runnings* article.
7. Class discussion
8. Video clip from *Cool Runnings*
9. Assignment for the day: Jamaican culture writing part 1
10. Discuss writing assignment
11. This next part students will work in groups
12. In groups have students read *Newton Marshall reading*
13. Students will begin Thinglink assignment
14. When finished with Thinglink students will share their interactive image with one other group to view
15. Students will complete Jamaica Culture Writing part 2 for assignment

Materials Students Need:

1. Cool Runnings reading
2. Newton Marshall reading
3. Thinglink - <https://www.thinglink.com/>
4. Computer/chromebook/iPad or some other type of device to access Thinglink

5. Newton Marshall Thinglink assignment sheet

Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning:

Thinglink - free web tool for students to create interactive images - <https://www.thinglink.com/>

Other Information: My class had just finished a unit on the Caribbean Islands. Learning about this topic fit in perfectly with the culture of Jamaica. Teaching about the Caribbean Islands is not required before doing this lesson.

Modifications for special learners/ Enrichment Opportunities:

Modifications: If you do not have access to the technology, create a handmade interactive image. Draw your one main image relating to Newton Marshall. Make pull up flaps that have your information underneath.

Enhancement: Students can create one Thinglink on Newton and 1 additional one on the bobsled team.