

Title: Kente Cloth in The African American Culture

Grade Level: 1st and 2nd

Subject: ELA & Social Studies

Keywords: Culture, Tradition, Kente Cloth, & African Americans



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| Lesson Plan: | Kente Cloth in The African American Culture |
| Subject: | American History |
| Grade: | 1 st and 2 nd |
| Description/ Abstract of Lesson | After having learned about Kente cloth and its role in the African American culture, the students will then take that knowledge a little further and begin to create their own Kente patterns. |
| SS.1.A.1.2 | Students will understand how to use the media center/other resources to find answers to questions about a historical topic. |
| LAFS.2.W.1.2 | Students will write informative/explanatory texts in which they introduce a topic, use facts and definitions to develop points, and provide a concluding statement or section. |
| Objective(s): | Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Explain the history of Kente cloth in the African American culture● Discuss how Kente cloth has been used throughout history in Black culture.● Students will be able to identify the importance of the Kente cloth in the African American culture. |
| Materials: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Informational sheet on the Kente cloth● Construction paper● Markers● Crayons |
| Duration: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 1-2 class periods● Block Scheduling (90 min.) 1 class period |
| Lesson Lead In/ Opening: | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduce lesson by showing Kente cloth (or picture of a Kente cloth). You can find samples of Kente cloth on the following website: http://www.kentecloth.net/kente-cloth-lesson/2. Tell students the name of the cloth. Ask students if they know what it means or if they have ever seen one. Discuss. |
| Activity 1: | Warm up or Do Now: The teacher will read information on Kente cloth to the students. Discuss. use the website above for reference. |
| Activity 2: | Ask students what they think certain colors mean or how do those colors make them feel. Share ideas with the class. Read the definitions of each color to students from the information provided by the following website: http://kente.midwesttradegoup.com/history.html |
| Activity 3: | Have students choose three colors to make a pattern for their own Kente cloth. Give students time to cover an entire sheet with their Kente pattern. Laminate their sheets and have them use them as place mats. |
| Activity 4: | Have the students write one to two paragraphs explaining what the colors and patterns on their Kente cloth mean to them. |
| Assessment: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Student participation- Teacher observation- Art grade for placement |

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| | - Grade received on written assignment. |
| Suggested Books: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Musgrove, Margaret & Cairns, Julia (2001) <u>The Spider Weaver: A Legend of Kente Cloth</u>, Blue Sky Press• Chocolate, Debbi (1997) <u>Kente Colors</u>, Walker Books |
| Web Resources | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• http://www.virtualexplorers.org/ghana/kente.htm• www.kinderart.com/multic/kente.shtml• www.africawithin.com/tour/ghana/kente_cloth.htm• www.ghanaembassy.or.jp/general/native.html |

Web Resources: