

Activity Name: C'est Moi

Brief Description of Task: Students will build a structure that represents them in some way using Minecraft, eg a Hockey arena if they love playing Hockey. They must include 5 rooms on the interior of the structure each that represent something that they love. One of which has to be about their family. They will use these structures as an anchor point for learning vocabulary to describe themselves.

Grade(s):4-8

Subject(s)/Topic: Core French/ Describing oneself

Learning Goal: To develop vocabulary to be able to describe themselves and their likes as well as their family members

Overall Expectations: B1, B2

Success Criteria: I can... (grade 6)

- Say my name and age in French
- Say my birthday in French
- Say my hair colour and eye colour
- Talk about a few of my favourite things (movie, TV show, animal, colour, number, etc.)
- Say what I like and don't like

I can... (grade 7/8)

- Say my name and age in French
- Say my birthday in French
- Say my hair colour and eye colour in French
- Talk about a few of my favourite things in French
- Say what I like and don't like
- Introduce my family members and pets in French and be able to say all the same things I can say about myself about my family members

Specific Expectations:B1.1,1.2,1.3,2.1,2.2

Useful Resources:

www.wordreference.com

Google Sites

Quizlet.com

Kahoot

SmartBoard

Various games

Activities

(Introduction, Primary Lesson, Consolidation):

Introduction:

Starting with whole class activities brainstorm vocabulary that they would use to describe themselves. In groups using wordreference translate a list of words from our brainstorming session. Continue building vocabulary comprehension using whole class games and tools such as photo dice, kahoot, and quizlet.

Development:

Using the same tasks as in the intro but with smaller groups to help build familiarity with the words. Eventually branching into more specific games like guess who. During this phase the students will develop a series of questions which they would ask someone they had just met. Using dice or cards they select questions to ask partners as they move about the room.

Conclusion:

Once they had completed their structure in Minecraft they were to submit a final oral presentation explaining each aspect of the structure and how it represented them and their family.

Assessment: Each week they submitted oral and written progress reports and answered questions in French. The final oral project was to be submitted in Google classroom.

Apps: Minecraft, Google for Ed apps, Wordreference, Shadow Puppet, Guess Who?, Quizlet

Reflection/Notes: This being my first minecraft project in a new school it was full of learning experiences. The hardest part was not getting the students to use minecraft all of the time, it was to develop a balance in when we should be using it. At some points students were more interested in creating their structures than in speaking French. As we worked out a reward system this helped to bring in more balance. The main stumbling blocks though seemed to be mostly tech related as we figured out updates, networking and compatibility issues, and everyday glitches. Once we figured out workarounds these issues impacted the project less and less. Going forward as the students and I have become more comfortable with how we can effectively use minecraft for education I believe this will become an even more valuable tool for us to use in our classrooms.

Possible Extensions: Using their structures for a descriptive writing task is a possible next

step.