Chain Reaction: Exploring Cause and Effect in Stories

Grades PK-K

Young learners explore characters, story and sequence through creative movement and story dramatization.

NC Foundations for Early Development: Goal LDC-2: Children participate in conversations with peers and adults in one-one, small, and larger group interactions. Goal LDC-7: Children respond to and use a growing vocabulary. Goal APL-2: Children actively seek to understand the world around them.

NCES: K.A.1 Analyze literary texts and performances.

Common Core: CCSS.ELA.Literacy.RL.K.1-4, 9, 10 / CCSS.ELA.Literacy.SL.K.1.1.(A-B), 3-6

My Community and Me

Grades K-2

Students explore the roles people play in the community and practice cooperation and teamwork.

NCES: (K-2).ICR.1 Understand healthy and effective interpersonal communication and relationships.

Common Core: CCSS.ELA.Literacy.SL.K.3, 4, 6 / CCSS.ELA.Literacy.SL.1.1, 4 / CCSS.ELA.Literacy.SL.2.1, 4

All About Weather

Grade 2

Students identify weather terms and explore weather concepts through improvisation and dramatization.

NCES: 2.E.1 Understand patterns of weather and factors that affect weather. (NCES.2.E.1.1-4)

Common Core: CCSS.ELA.Literacy.SL.2.1-4, 9

The Rainforest

Grades 1 and 3

Students are introduced to facts regarding the rainforest as they bring characters to life and experience rainforest sights and sounds.

NCES: 1.L.1 Understand characteristics of various environments and behaviors that enable plants and animals to survive. (NCES.1.L.1.1-3)

NCES: 3.L.2 Understand how plants survive in their environments. (NCES.3.L.2.1-4)

Common Core: CCSS.ELA.Literacy.RL.1.1-3, 6, 9 / CCSS.ELA.Literacy.RL.3.2-3, 6 / CCSS.ELA.Literacy.R.1.3.6, 9

The Great Shape Mystery

Grade 2

Students explore the connection between shapes and fractions by having to rescue a class created character.

NCES: CCSS.NCEX.Math.Content.2.G.A Reason with shapes and their attributes (circles, rectangle, squares and triangles).

Common Core: CCSS.Math.Content.2.G.A.1-3

Tall Tales

Grades 3-5

Students learn the elements of a "tall tale" story and its characters, then students create their own character and write a "bragging speech."

Common Core: CCSS.ELA.Literacy.RL.(3-5).1-3, 6-7, 9 / CCSS.ELA.Literacy.RI.(3-5).1-2

People of the Piedmont

Grades 4 and 8

Students identify and explore the five settler groups of the Piedmont area and gain understanding of history through role play.

NCES: 4.C.1 Understand the impact of various cultural groups on North Carolina. (NCES.4.C.1.1-2)

NCES: 8.C.1 Understand how different cultures influenced North Carolina and the United States. (NCES.8.C.1.1-3)

Common Core: CCSS.ELA.Literacy.SL.(4 & 8).1.(A-D) / CCSS.ELA.Literacy.SL.(4 & 8).2-3, 4-6

Taking Care of Our Earth

Grades 4-5

Students explore the effects of recycling and conserving resources both locally and globally.

NCES: 4.L.1 Understand the effects of environmental changes, adaptations and behaviors that enable animals (including humans) to survive in changing habitat. (NCES.4.L.1.1, 3)

NCES: 5.L.2 Understand the interdependence of plants and animals with their ecosystem. (NCES.5.L.2.2-3)

Common Core: CCSS.ELA.Literacy.R1.4.3, 6, 7, 9 / CCSS.ELA.Literacy.R1.5.3, 6, 9

Shakespeare

Grades 5-8

Students actively experience Shakespeare's themes, language and characters with "on your feet" activities. Based on the model from *Shakespeare's Heartbeat* by Kelly Hunter.

Common Core: CCSS.ELA.Literacy.RL.5.1-3, 4-6 / CCSS.ELA.Literacy.RL.6.1-3, 4-6, 7 / CCSS.ELA.Literacy.RL.7.1-3, 4-6, 7 / CCSS.ELA.Literacy.RL.8.1-3, 4-6, 7

Playwrighting Workshop (FREE)

Grades 6-8

Offered in conjunction with the national competition, "Young Playwrights for Change", students receive a crash course in writing a ten-minute play.

NCES: 6.TA.C.1.3 Understand how to read and write scripts.

NCES: 7.TA.C.1.3 Use playwriting skills to communicate conflict, plot, and character.

NCES: 8.TA.C.1.3 Create original works that communicate ideas and feelings.

Common Core: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.(6-8).3.(A-E)