

Iroquois Heritage Studies Program

All students grades K-6 (cultural diversity)



A highly visual and exciting social studies curriculum on the Iroquois Native American people for elementary students:

- *Nine units comprised of a minimum of 16 lesson plans provide teachers with a rich resource with which to integrate Native American studies into their social studies curriculum.*
- *Students work on skills development, research, and presentation proficiency.*

Results



- *Students of all social and ethnic backgrounds develop a better understanding of how the Iroquois people lived in harmony with nature and each other.*
- *Students will understand the interrelationship of government, individual and family responsibilities of tribal members, and the spiritual bonds that provided the inner strength needed for survival and a good life.*

The Program

The Iroquois Heritage Studies Program provides K-6 teachers with factual, parent-friendly, extensively visual, imaginative and exciting materials about the history, culture, vocabulary, and stories by and about the Iroquois people.

The program provides teachers with a resource which addresses nine key concepts:

- Change
- Citizenship
- Culture
- Empathy
- Environment
- Identity
- Interdependence (Nation/State)
- Scarcity

The program materials, written by Native Americans, consist of 9 units comprised of 16 lessons, with some units containing more. All lessons may be integrated into the regular social studies curriculum. Science, math, and geography information are also integrated in the materials. It is a holistic and integrated curriculum that richly exemplifies cultural diversity and gender equity and develops higher critical thinking skills through use of myth and symbolism, experiential learning, and interdisciplinary content.

A book of craft projects which can be done in the classroom by students with the teacher's guidance reinforces lessons and helps teach hand-eye coordination and the use of different materials and tools. The curriculum also supports skills development in research and information presentation. It is especially appropriate for teachers of 4th and 7th grades in New York State locales where the focus is on Indian groups and the Iroquois in particular. This program is now in use in the Rochester and Greece Title IX programs and in the Greece Elementary Schools, the Library at Niagara Falls University, Lewiston-Porter Middle School in Niagara County, and in Rye and White Plains, Orange and Dutchess County Parochial Schools.

Professional Development

Approximately six hours of teacher training will: 1) introduce teachers to the materials, 2) help them understand the cultural heritage in order to implement the materials successfully, and 3) provide hands on experience and a variety of activities for students. Follow-up assistance is available upon request.

Costs & Funding Options

A set of nine curriculum units, a teachers guide, pre- and posttests, all lesson tests, and supplemental materials are included in the cost of materials. A book of motivators and a book of craft projects that can be incorporated by classroom teachers to reinforce lessons are also available. Possible funding sources for replication include ESEA Title VI.

Learning Standards

Social Studies: 3) use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of the geography of the interdependent world in which we live — local, national, and global — including the distribution of people, places, and environments over the Earth's surface.

Contact

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