

Images of Greatness

Rationale:

The purpose of the redesign of this unit is to incorporate the usage of more technology into the Images of Greatness Unit. In the past, research was limited to reading a biography and using the classroom encyclopedias. Some students chose to go beyond this and do extra research on the computer at home or during their center times. This new unit will provide each student access to the computer and require them to use the computer in a variety of applications. The computer will be used for research, creating timelines, word processing jobs, sequencing events, generating bulletin boards, creating bibliographies, and finding photographs or illustrations of their important Americans. The new unit will help to meet State Standard as listed below:

- 3.B.2a – Generate and organize ideas using a variety of planning strategies (e.g., mapping, outlining, drafting).
- 5.A.2a – Formulate questions and construct a basic research plan.
- 5.A.2b – Organize and integrate information from a variety of sources (e.g., books, interviews, library reference materials, web-sites, CD-ROMs).
- 5.B.1a – Select and organize information from various sources for a specific purpose.
- 5.B.2b –Cite sources used.
- 11.A.1d – Record and store data using available technologies.
- 16.A.1b – Ask historical questions and seek out answers from historical sources (e.g., myths, biographies, stories, old photographs, artwork, other visual or electronic sources).
- 16.B.1(W) – Explain the contributions of individuals and groups who are featured in biographies, legends folklore, and traditions.
- 16.D.2c(US) – Describe the influence of key individuals and groups in the historical eras of the United States.

Description of the Unit:

The Images of Greatness Unit is a unit of study designed to help students become more aware of famous American figures and the talents, opportunities, dedications, and sacrifices involved in the achievement of their successes. There are four main components to the unit which include: doing research, collecting information and documenting important facts on fact cards, writing a research paper including a bibliography, and creating a presentation on their individual. Other extension activities are created also to help enhance the unit. At the end of the unit, friends and family members are invited to an open house to view our projects.

The Images of Greatness Unit integrates reading, social studies, art, and language arts. It provides students many opportunities to display their talents