

Kente Cloth STEM Lesson



INTRODUCTION

My class will take part in a lesson about Kente Cloth using the *Windows to the World* website as well as other websites for research purposes.

This lesson focuses on technology and engineering, two of the basics of STEM education.

INDIANA STANDARDS CONNECTION Grade 8 Integrated STEM

8.CC.1 Students collect and document evidence to share information with others in multiple media forms

8.IPS.1 Students conduct or extend an original investigation, analyze results, iterate, and revise to improve the design

COMPELLING QUESTIONS

How and why was Kente Cloth created?

How can clothing be a symbol of power?

How can clothing connect us to our familial roots?

LESSON OBJECTIVES

Students will:

- Be able to explain how clothing identifies a family unit or people group
- Research Kente Cloth and present their findings to the class in a creative format
- Design and create their own Kente Cloth based upon their research and utilizing the supplies given in class
- Present their Kente Cloth to the class

Kente Cloth STEM Lesson

MATERIALS

Fabric scraps
Scissors
Thread
Needle
Student iPads

LEARNING PLAN

(Activities)

Students will begin by having a discussion with their collaboration group about clothing in general and Kente Cloth specifically. They will share these findings with the greater class group.

Students will conduct research about Kente Cloth together with their collaboration group. They will present their findings to the class in digital format of their choosing (i.e. Google slide presentation, iMovie, etc.)

Students will draw a design for a Kente Cloth that they feel best represents their familial roots.

Students will create their Kente Cloth. They will iterate the design as necessary until it is the best representation of their familial roots.

Students will present their Kente Cloth to the class and receive feedback, both positive as well as constructive.

ASSESSMENT SUGGESTIONS

Students will be assessed on their technology presentation (information included and engagement of material). Students will receive feedback from their peers about their presentation—both positive as well as constructive, using a rubric of the teacher's design.

Students Kente Cloth will be assessed using the 4 C's of STEM—creativity, collaboration, communication, and critical thinking, using a rubric of the teacher's design.

EXTENSIONS

To add a literacy component to this activity, students could write a short story about their Kente Cloth that connects the reader to their family.