Field Guide Design Project

a project from Constructive Learning Design

Field Guide Design Project

We're going to design and create a Field Guide to share with kids who come to visit _____ County! Then, we're going to give copies to all the kids at our school, and also to the Visitor's Center, so they can give them to families who visit.

What are some things we might want to share with kids who visit our county?

Use books and the internet to find at least one thing in each of the following categories that you think would be interesting to a kid visiting from somewhere else:

1 **What's a cool plant in _____ County that you think is unique?**

2 **Can you name an animal found in _____ County that you think is fascinating?**

3 **What's a fun or special place to explore in _____ County?**

4 **What's an exciting activity for kids to do in _____ County?**

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Discover: Prepare

We're going to be meeting with lots of experts who can help us learn about our area. Let's figure out what questions we might want to ask.

1 **Who are the experts we're going to meet? Write them down here!**

2 **With your group, write down as many questions as you can think of to ask these experts. (This is called brainstorming!)**

Brainstorming Guidelines

- Put one question on each post-it note.
- Ask as many questions as you can.
- Don't stop to talk about the questions yet.

3 **With your group, organize your questions into two categories: close-ended and open-ended.**

How many open-ended questions do you have?
(These questions require more thought and a detailed response) _____

How many close-ended questions do you have?
(These questions can only be answered with "yes," "no," or 1-2 words) _____

4 **Prioritize your questions from most to least important for you to get answers to. Write your top three questions here:**

Why do you feel like these questions are the most important?

How will getting answers to these questions help you write your field guide?

5 **Add your questions to your notecatcher, so you'll be ready when the experts come to visit.**

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Develop: Sketch

Each page in our Field Guide is going to have the following information on it:

- A topic to learn about
- A title to tell you what it's about
- Text to teach other kids about this topic
- Picture(s) that help kids understand the text
- An activity that other kids could do to help them learn about this topic

1 We're planning for our Field Guide to have 20 pages. What are the topics that we want to include on those pages?

2 Work with your partner to sketch out what you might want on your field guide page. Remember to include everything from the list above!

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Contact our team to inquire about the complete Field Guide workbook and how we can collaborate with you to make it even more impactful for your classroom.

Here's what the RootEd team can offer you!

1. **Curriculum Design**
Our workbooks are flexible, ready-to-use tools designed by former teachers and creative designers. This resource was created to align with various curriculum areas and makes implementation in your classroom simple and effective.

2. **Co-Teaching Support**
When you collaborate with RootEd, you don't just get a design guide – you also gain a dedicated co-teacher who will work alongside you to integrate the Field Guide project seamlessly into your curriculum and pacing guides. We ensure the project is both educational and engaging, helping students learn while they create.

3. **Design & Printing Services**
RootEd offers professional graphic design services to transform your students' work into visually compelling designs that will truly stand out. Once your students' designs are finalized, we handle the printing process, ensuring a polished, professional final product.

4. **Storytelling & Documentation**
Throughout the project, RootEd provides support to document the process, showcasing the journey students take in creating the Field Guide. This storytelling approach not only highlights the students' work but also preserves the collaborative experience for future reflection and community sharing.

5. **Community Connections & Funding Support**
RootEd connects teachers and students with local experts, tourism organizations, and sponsors, helping to identify community needs, assets, and opportunities. Through these partnerships, students gain valuable insights into their local environment and contribute meaningfully to their community's development. Additionally, we assist in securing sponsorships to fund the production of the Field Guide, ensuring the project is financially supported while fostering stronger community engagement.

Reach out today to discuss how we can tailor our services to meet the needs of your classroom!

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