

Outside Opportunity Proposal

Simone Fine, Lakewood Montessori Middle School

For my outside opportunity, I will bring an expert from the North Carolina State Office of Archaeology to talk to my community about archeology. The theme for our upcoming cycle is *Identity of Self*, focusing on student exploration of how personal identity shapes the way historical memory is made.

Students will root into the theme through archeology because it will allow for personal and big-picture discourse about how the past affects present manifestations of identity. Students will explore what artifacts tell archaeologists about identities of people who lived long ago and then draw conclusions about how this knowledge affects humanity today. Through this, students will pursue the gateways meaning, purpose, and deep connection.

Additionally, our culminating activity for the cycle will ask students to make archeological portraits of themselves to exemplify what aspects of their identity they want to be remembered as they grow older or after they pass on--similar to creating a time capsule but more focused on recognizing the past rather than emphasizing the future.

This guest speaker would align with the ELA objectives because students will be using the information that they gather from the expert to write an informative/explanatory essay about what studying the past can tell us about our lives in the present. The speaker also ties in nicely with Social Studies objectives because students will demonstrate an understanding of what prompts exploration and expansion.

Students will be assessed based on the quality of the notes they take during the expert's talk. They will be expected to take down information about how archaeology techniques and record observations of the artifacts our speaker brings in. This will be especially important because their notes will be one of their research components for their informative paper.

I have talked to the potential speaker and she said her presentation will take an hour. She will discuss what their office does, in terms of archaeology techniques and projects in North Carolina, and describe how they use individual objects to make educated guesses about people throughout history. This presentation will include interactive aspects and allow students to handle objects that have been excavated at sites across North Carolina. She would be able to come present to both of my workcycles in the morning and afternoon. I've confirmed with the Office of Archaeology that they are able to come in September, but have not yet gotten formal approval from my principal. Once she approves, we will move forward and choose an exact date.

Contact Information

Rosie Blewitt-Golsch

Assistant State Archaeologist

Tel: 919.814.6558

Mail: rosemarie.blewitt@ncdcr.gov