Europeana Learning Scenario

Title

Merry GIFmas

Author(s)

Judit Benedek

Abstract

The topic of this Learning Scenario is Christmas which is a traditional holiday in many European countries. We teach and learn related content during language lessons. The aim is to reshape the old way and give it a new sparkle.

Keywords

Christmas, GIF, vocabulary, jigsaw, fun

Table of summary

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Subject	English, Art, IT		
Topic	Christmas		
Age of students	10-11		
Preparation time	60 min		
Teaching time	2*45 min		
Online teaching material	Padlet giphy.com Europeana adventmyfriend jigsawplanet trimino maker https://www.randomlists.com/		
Offline teaching material	trimino cards		
Europeana resources used	*Advent calendar pictures:* 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	16 17 18 19 20 21 22

| | | 15 | 23 |
| | Jigsaw picture 1 Jigsaw picture 2 Jigsaw picture 3 | | 24 |

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Integration into the curriculum

In December we always have a couple of lessons about Christmas. We listen to carols, learn related vocabulary, do quizzes and create greeting cards.

Aim of the lesson

My main aim is to shake up my Christmas lessons a bit. To teach vocabulary in an unusual way and use this knowledge in an innovative way. It is also important to show parents what they children learn at school. Christmas cards are a great way for this.

Trends

Project based learning

Student centered learning

Mobile learning

Edutainment

Visual learning

Open source learning

21st century skills

Creativity

Problem solving

Collaboration

Information literacy

Productivity

Activities

Name of activity	Procedure	Time
Vocabulary building	We open the 24 windows of the advent calendar. Each of them covers a Christmas related picture. With the help of these students create their own picture dictionaries.	20'
group making	With the help of a group making tool students can see the names of their groupmates. They only have to find each other. They form 3 groups.	5'
picture description / vocabulary practice	While one group is trying to solve a puzzle on the smartboard, the other groups have to solve a Trimino puzzle in groups. (Downloadable Trimino can be found in the annex)	20'
Card creation	I sent the Padlet link to students which contained all the pictures downloaded from Europeana. These were the basis of the Gifs. They had to choose one and use giphy.com to customize it. Then they had to send its link to their parents with a nice message.	45'

Assessment

Trimino is a kind of assessment for vocabulary. Otherwise there is no assessment in this LS. This is just for fun.

**************************** AFTER IMPLEMENTATION ****************************

Student feedback

The GIF making task (Christmas cards) was so successful that many other classes wanted to make it and our principal liked the results and sent some of them as holiday greetings on behalf of the whole school.

Parents sent back messages and they also liked what they children created.

When my students left the IT room they told me how much they liked the task and how much fun it was. Some of them even thanked me that I showed them how to make a gif.

Teacher's remarks

When opening the calendar, we have to take into consideration, that the calendar doesn't let us open future dates. We did this task on the 17th December and couldn't open the 18th. I had to use the editable version for the rest of the dates.

Jigsaw puzzles can cause some trouble with timing. Some groups didn't do too well on this task. They could solve it but they needed more time than planned.

Because of the young age of students, they didn't really have this kind of IT experience. A lot of personal help was needed even with logging in to giphy.com. They've never copied and pasted links before but finally everybody successfully completed the tasks.

About the Europeana DSI-4 project

[Europeana](#) is Europe's digital platform for cultural heritage, providing free online access to over 53 million digitised items drawn from Europe's museums, archives, libraries and galleries. The Europeana DSI-4 project continues the work of the previous three Europeana Digital Service Infrastructures (DSIs). It is the fourth iteration with a proven record of accomplishment in creating access, interoperability, visibility and use of European cultural heritage in the five target markets outlined: European Citizens, Education, Research, Creative Industries and Cultural Heritage Institutions.

[European Schoolnet](#) (EUN) is the network of 34 European Ministries of Education, based in Brussels. As a not-for-profit organisation, EUN aims to bring innovation in teaching and learning to its key stakeholders: Ministries of Education, schools, teachers, researchers, and industry partners. European Schoolnet's task in the Europeana DSI-4 project is to continue and expand the Europeana Education Community.

I used a [Padlet](#) during the lesson where all the materials are collected.

You can find the printable trimino cards on the Padlet as well.