

GRADE 9 SPANISH: *El Medio Ambiente*

Summary of Learning Opportunity

I wanted to find a way to engage students in learning new vocabulary and grammatical structures in this Spanish 9 course. I connected this learning opportunity to the study of the environment (*el medio ambiente*), which many of my students are interested in. This assignment helped students practice literacy skills like curating information, extracting information and presenting ideas effectively. Students connected their prior experiences, conducted research and made posters to increase awareness of the environment in our school, and how the environment is impacted by our choices.

Spanish 9

Learning Standards

- Use various strategies to increase understanding and produce oral and written language
- Share information using the presentation format best suited to their own and others' diverse abilities
- Common vocabulary, sentence structures and expressions

Literacy Connections

Instruction and Assessment

Competencies Developed, Practiced and/or Assessed

LITERACY: Applies
Understanding—Extracts
ideas and information

1. Students gathered information about an aspect of the environment through researching online and reading magazine articles and books in Spanish from the classroom library. Some students also interviewed other students and teachers in English.

Use various strategies to increase understanding and produce oral and written language

LITERACY: Applies
Understanding—Synthesizes
ideas and information;
Communicates—Presents
ideas and information

2. Students created posters using information they had learned, using support from translation dictionaries. Students used visuals to show how the different vocabulary words and concepts are interconnected.

Use various strategies to increase understanding and produce oral and written language

Share information using the presentation format best suited to their own and others' diverse abilities

Demonstration of Student Learning, Teacher Assessment and Reflection



Teacher's Assessment

Proficient: These students (left and below right) researched environmental practices around the world. They practiced integrating nouns and verbs to create simple phrases to show how various environmental practices are interconnected. The student on the left presented their information in a visually appealing way.



Teacher's Assessment

Developing: This student (left) created a beautiful, engaging poster showing vocabulary associated with the environment theme. They used visuals to help illustrate and remember the new vocabulary. I gave this student feedback to further stretch their written language skills by integrating verbs into their phrases and to show how phrases are interconnected (for example, *árbol* is tree, and several trees together create a *bosque*, or forest).