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Introduction

Use *Instant Social Studies* to enhance your social studies program and give your students something fun to do and think about every single day. This book contains calendar-related lessons for every week of the year. Each lesson includes five activities—a week of instant social studies! As an extra bonus each lesson contains a language arts component to supplement your regular curriculum.

Instant Social Studies can be used in two ways: by date (the lessons are in chronological order) or by subject (consult the index).

Instant Social Studies will respond to several needs of teachers. It will provide fresh material for experienced teachers and materials for the entire calendar year—a necessity in the increasingly popular year-round school and one that is not addressed by traditional curriculum resources.



Day 5—Haiku Party

Materials

- dolls on display
- haiku worksheet below
- almond cookies or Japanese rice snacks
- tea (use punch and pretend)



Activity

Have a party honoring the visiting dolls. Each student should write (or dictate) a tribute to his or her doll or action figure. Show students how to clap or tap and count syllables before they start writing. When the poems are complete, ask each student to read his or her poem aloud.

Name _____

Date _____

Writing Haiku

A haiku poem has three lines made up of 17 syllables.

There are 5 syllables in the first line, 7 syllables in the second line, and 5 syllables in the third line.

The lines do not need to rhyme.

Here are two examples:

G.I. Joe is strong. (5)
 He wears a green uniform. (7)
 He can win battles. (5)

My doll's name is Belle. (5)
 She looks a lot like I do. (7)
 She has brown skin, too. (5)

Now write your own haiku. Use the back of this paper to write more than one.

(5) _____

(7) _____

(5) _____



Background

Davy Crockett was born on August 17, 1786. He was a scout, an army officer, and a congressman from Tennessee for three terms. He died at the Alamo where his diary was found when the ruins were searched.

Making It Work

Davy Crockett is one of those people who symbolizes American frontier days. Although he was a real person, he is most famous for the tall tales told about his life in the backwoods. He told most of the tall tales himself and wrote three books about his adventures. He has achieved the kind of legendary status shared by Pecos Bill, Paul Bunyan, Mike Fink, and John Henry.

Day 1—King of the Wild Frontier

Materials

- encyclopedias or other illustrated reference materials
- classroom wall map of the United States

Activity

This is designed to be an oral exercise to establish a general base of information. See what the students already know and give them the information they don't have. Locate places on the map as you go along.

- Davy Crockett was born in Tennessee on August 17, 1786.
- He was a scout, an army officer, an Indian fighter, and a congressman from Tennessee for three terms.
- Even though he had many real accomplishments, he is best known for the tall tales told about his adventures on the frontier. He told most of these tall tales himself and even wrote three books about his adventures.
- He died in 1836 defending the Alamo in Texas. His diary was found in the ruins.
- He has been the subject of movies and TV shows, and songs have been written about his life and adventures. He has become part of American folklore.

