

Readington Township Public Schools

Exploring National Parks

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Readington Township Public Schools

www.readington.k12.nj.us

I. OVERVIEW

Our encore class will focus on National Parks. This course provides an in-depth exploration of national parks, focusing on their significance in terms of conservation efforts, recreational opportunities, and preservation of cultural heritage. Through interdisciplinary perspectives, students will delve into the history, management strategies, ecological importance, and socio-cultural impacts of national parks worldwide. By examining case studies and engaging in hands-on activities, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of the complexities surrounding the establishment, maintenance, and utilization of these protected areas.

II. STUDENT OUTCOMES ([NJSLS Standards](#))

5-ESS3-1. Obtain and combine information about ways individual communities use science ideas to protect the Earth's resources and environment.

MS-ESS3-3. Apply scientific principles to design a method for monitoring and minimizing a human impact on the environment.

4-LS1-1. Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Introduction

Students will be able to:

- Students will be able to understand the national park system; explore protected resources of different national parks; create their own park

- Understand the National Parks:

Students will be able to:

- Understand the mission of the National Park System.

- Travel through National Parks:

Students will be able to:

- Understand and navigate through Yellowstone/Grand Teton, Arches/Canyonlands, Isle Royale and Acadia
- Learn specific information about several national parks and understand the resources that they protect.

- National Park Webquest:

Students will be able to:

- Students will research a national park and utilize technology to create exhibits of their park.

IV. STRATEGIES

Strategies may include but are not limited to:

- Group discussions
- Teacher presentation
- Student projects
- Guided groups
- One to one instruction
- Interactive SmartBoard lessons

- Tutorials
- Online practice

V. EVALUATION

Assessments may include but are not limited to:

- Teacher Observations
- Class Participation
- Class Discussions
- Class Assignments
- Homework Assignments
- Notebooks
- Student Projects
- Tests and Quizzes
- Anecdotal Records
- Presentations

VI. REQUIRED RESOURCES

- Chromebooks
- Headphones

Supplemental Resources may include, but are not limited to:

- Teacher created materials
- BrainPop
- <https://www.nps.gov/index.htm>
- Explore Your National Parks Yellowstone Teacher's Guide
- America's National Parks Collection

VII. SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

- Understand the National Parks (12 days)
 - What is a National Park
 - All about Yellowstone
 - Investigating Yellowstone
 - Graph a Grizzly
 - It's a Dilemma – You decide
- Travel through National Parks (12 days)
 - Yellowstone/Grand Teton
 - Arches/Canyonlands
 - Isle Royale
 - Acadia
- National Park Webquest (20 days)
 - Technology to research and create exhibits