



TEACHER PAGE

CAMP GREEN LAKE

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CAMP

GRADE LEVEL: 5–8

SUBJECTS: Language Arts, Visual Arts

DURATION: Two 40-minute class periods

NATIONAL STANDARDS: Language Arts, Standard 4: Communication skills, Standard 5: Communication strategies; Visual Arts, Standard 1: Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes

MATERIALS: A selection of outdoor adventure magazines, travel and camp brochures, colored paper, markers, colored pencils and other art supplies at the teacher's discretion

Use this lesson to have students create a brochure advertising Camp Green Lake as a newly refurbished outdoor adventure camp.

DESCRIPTION

Much of the movie *Holes* is set at Camp Green Lake, a dried up lakebed that serves as a boys' detention center. Camp Green Lake is where Stanley – our Stanley – is unjustly sent for a crime he did not commit.

OBJECTIVES

- To recall details from *Holes* describing Camp Green Lake
- To list positive and appealing qualities of a camp for young people
- To organize ideas and information in a persuasive manner
- To write an attention-getting title or slogan for a brochure

ADAPTATIONS

For younger students, brainstorm good adjectives they can use in their brochure. Provide a more rigid format for the brochure. Create and make copies of a worksheet for students to fill in with the required information prior to making their brochures. You might even design a pre-made template for the brochures to standardize student products.

ASSESSMENT

Design a five-point rubric to assess students on the inclusion and presentation of required information in their brochure.

EXTENSIONS

Older or more technologically savvy students may opt to create a web site for the fictional camp.

USEFUL RESOURCES

The National Chamber of Commerce & Convention & Visitor Bureau Directory: www.2chambers.com

Activities offered at various overnight camps: <http://camppage.com>

Information on adventure travel, outdoor activities, and recreation areas: <http://gorp.com>

PROCEDURES

1. Ask students to recall features of Camp Green Lake from the movie (or book). List these features on the board or overhead projector.
2. Review with students the idea that the detention center is to be closed, sold, and re-opened for a better, more humanitarian purpose – an outdoor adventure camp. Remind students that rain stopped falling in the fictional town of Green Lake, Texas, after the townspeople turned on Miss Katherine and Sam.
3. Ask students to list some positive or attractive features of a camp for young people. What kinds of facilities should a camp next to a lake have? What could be incorporated from the existing camp into the new and improved camp? List several of the students' ideas on the board or overhead projector.
4. Instruct students to share the available travel and camp brochures, and use them as guides to create a brochure advertising Camp Green Lake Adventure Camp.
5. Write the following thought points on the board or overhead projector and tell students to copy the information, as it will be required in their brochures:
 - Attractions offered at the camp (e.g., movies, swimming, arts and crafts, rock climbing)
 - Key staff members (Is there a nurse or doctor on hand? A cook? A naturalist?)
 - Camp weather and the kinds of clothing to bring
 - Length of camp programs (e.g., 1 week, 1 month)
 - A pretend phone number to call for information
 - Cost and financial aid available
6. Allow students a second 40-minute class period to create their brochures. Remind students to use attention-getting language in their brochures to persuade people to come to the camp.
7. Create a bulletin board to display the brochures.