

ACROSTIC POEM



Time: 1-2 class periods

Instructional Goals:

- The student will use the PebbleGo Next State Studies and American Indian History online database to research an American Indian tribe.
- The student will write an acrostic poem using the name of the tribe as its foundation, and facts about the group for the poem's lines.
- The student will learn the form of an acrostic poem.

Materials/Resources:

- PebbleGo Next online database
- Example acrostic poem (search "acrostic poem" online or in your library's online catalog), the short example in this lesson, or Inuit Sample Acrostic Poem
- Paper and pencil for each student
- If desired, a website such as ReadWriteThink (<http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/acrostic/>), or an app or other computer software for creating a final draft of each student's acrostic poem

Procedures/Lesson Activities:

Focus

1. Show students an example acrostic poem. Read the poem together. Ask students if they notice anything special about the poem. Record their answers.

Outstanding eyesight at night

Wings that stretch far

Late into the night, I hear the owl hoot

Teach/Model

2. Explain the form of an acrostic poem. The subject of the poem is written vertically, so each letter begins a new line. Each line describes the subject of the poem and must start with the letter on that line.
3. Go through the sample acrostic poem pointing out the letters vertically spelling the poem's subject and how the letters of this word start the lines of the poem. Show students how each line of the poem is describing the subject of the poem.

Independent Practice



4. Assign each student a cultural group included in PebbleGo Next States and American Indian Studies database. Tell students they will write an acrostic poem about that cultural group based on the information they learn about that group in PebbleGo Next.
5. Students write the name of their assigned cultural group vertically on a blank piece of paper.
6. Students research their group using PebbleGo Next. They write a draft of an acrostic poem about that cultural group. (See Inuit Sample Acrostic Poem.)

Closure

7. Students create a final draft of their acrostic poem, writing it on blank paper, using a website such as ReadWriteThink (<http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/acrostic/>), or using an app or other computer software. Students may include appropriate graphics.

Extend/Enrich

- Import student acrostic poems into a movie making or presentation app that allows students to narrate their poems. Publish the poems online.

Inuit



In all things and creatures, a spirit lives

Nestled into parkas made of animal skin

Used their environment by the sea for food and homes

Inuktitut is one native language

Temporary homes to move quickly in search of food