Lesson/Activity Title:

BIOGRAPHY DOLLARS

Time: approximately 30-45 minutes

Instructional Goals:

- The student will use the PebbleGo Biographies online database to research an important historical figure.
- The student will navigate an online database to locate needed information.
- The student will be introduced to the term *biography*.

Materials/Resources:

- PebbleGo Biographies online database
- Biography Dollars page (copy for each student)
- Crayons

Directions:

Focus

1. Ask the students to imagine that the United States government wants to make a new $100 bill. They want to know who should have his or her picture on the $100 bill. The person chosen will need to be an important historical figure in our country.

2. Each student is in charge of nominating an important historical figure for the $100 bill. They must explain to the government why this person deserves to be on the $100 bill.

3. Discuss with students the term biography. Define the term, and as a class, brainstorm different people in history that may be good choices for the $100 bill.

Teach/Model

4. Walk students through the process of accessing the PebbleGo Biographies online database.

5. Show students how subject directory searching works by navigating through the subject directory pictures in PebbleGo Biographies. Show students keyword searching by using the Search box at the top of the screen. Use names from the class brainstorming list of historical figures as examples.

6. Explain the difference between the two types of searching. Let students know they can use either search strategy while completing this activity.

7. Demonstrate the read-aloud function by clicking on the appropriate button and listening to the text being read aloud.

8. Show students the tabs at the top of the screen that allow them to scroll through the biographical information.

9. Demonstrate how students can use the buttons to watch videos.

10. Show students how they can look through the different pictures of a person. Explain that they will need to use the pictures to help them with their Biography Dollars activity.

11. Show students how to choose a picture of a person and print it out.

Guided Practice

12. Show students the Biography Dollars page.

13. Explain that students will research a person in PebbleGo Biographies. If they already know a person they want to research, they may use keyword searching to see if there is an article about that person. If they do not know who they want to research, they may use the subject directory to browse through the choices.

14. Model the process for students.

Independent Practice

15. Have students work independently.

16. When students have found a person in PebbleGo Biographies, they will listen to the article using the read-aloud feature, or they will read the information independently. They will watch the video for their person, if one is available.

17. Students will complete the Biography Dollars page for the person they are researching.

18. Monitor student progress as they work to complete the Biography Dollars activity.

Closure

19. Bring students together as a whole group. Ask for volunteers to present their nomination to the class. Have the volunteers share with the class some of the information they learned about the person and why the person deserves to be on the $100 bill.

Extend/Enrich

20. Students may write a nomination letter to the President explaining why the person they researched would be a good choice for the $100 bill.

21. Students may complete the Share What You Know page in the database page for the person they researched.

Name: _____

Biography Dollars

Who do you think should be on the $100 bill?

_____

Why does this person deserve this honor?

_____

_____

What are some of the important contributions to history that this person has made?

_____

_____

Draw and color this person on the $100 bill. Or print a photo of the person. Cut and glue it on the bill. Write the name under the picture.

Biography Dollars

100

P0123456789

100

Capstone Digital

2010

This note is not legal tender for all debts, public and private.

PG

Coughlan Companies

100

100