

STATE LICENSE PLATE DESIGN LESSON PLAN

Time: 10-15 minutes for focus; 10-15 minutes for teach/model; 15-20 minutes for guided practice; 45-75 minutes for independent practice; 20-30 minutes for closure

Instructional Goals:

- The students will use the **PebbleGo Next States** online database to research and take notes on a U.S. state.
- The students will use research notes to design a new license plate for a U.S. state. The license plate will incorporate an important image and a nickname for the state.

Integrated Content Standards

- AASL Standards Framework for Learners (<http://standards.aasl.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/AASL-Learner-Framework-Spread.pdf>)
- Common Core English Language Arts/Literacy Standards (www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/)
- National Educational Technology Standards for Students (<https://www.iste.org/standards/for-students>)
- NCTE/IRA Standards for English Language Arts (www.ncte.org/standards/ncte-ira)
- National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies (<http://socialstudies.org>)

Materials/Resources:

- Current map of the United States
- Images of current United States state license plates
- **PebbleGo Next States** online database
- **State License Plate Research** handout
- License Plate Design template
- Pencils
- Art supplies such as crayons, colored pencils, or markerst

Procedures/Lesson Activities:

Focus

1. Gather students and show them a map of the United States. Briefly discuss how each region is unique and how the states within them are alike in some ways and different in others.
2. Mention that each state has its own license plate design to represent it.
3. Name a state in each region and show its current license plate. Discuss how each license plate design fits its state and region.

Teach/Model



4. Tell students they will have the opportunity to research a state. They will design a new license plate for their state based on what they learn.
5. Show students how to navigate the **PebbleGo Next States** online database. Click on your region and select your state.
6. Review how to click between the tabs within an article.
7. Remind students that they can utilize the read-aloud feature if they desire.
8. Demonstrate how to play the video within an article by clicking the appropriate icon.
9. Tell students they always need to give proper credit to their research source by including a bibliography section on their final product. Point out the cite button near the bottom of an article.
10. Circulate the **State License Plate Research** handout and the **License Plate Design** template.

Guided Practice

11. Gather students. Model navigating the article about the state in which you live. Model filling in parts of the handout until students have grasped the concept.
12. Show students a picture of your state's current license plate. Discuss the information that will be relevant to a license plate design. Then discuss how to narrow down this information to a single focus.
13. Tell students that after their research page is complete, they will design a new license plate for their state. Each license plate design should include the name of the state, a nickname for the state, and an image for the state. Show students a copy of the **License Plate Design** template. Model writing the state's name and nickname on it. Then model sketching a picture that is appropriate for the state.

Independent Practice

14. Assign each student in your classroom a different state to research. If you prefer, allow students to choose their own, but encourage each student to select a different state so you have a wide range of license plate designs.
15. Allow students ample time to navigate the **PebbleGo Next States** online database and complete their research and license plate design.

Closure

16. Gather your students together and display the map of the United States. Group students by region. Have them share their license plates and discuss how their designs are alike and different.
17. Display student license plates by region. Encourage students to reference these designs to learn more about each region and its states.

Extend/Enrich

Encourage students to provide written reasoning for their license plate design. This could include why the nickname and image they chose best fits the state. Students can also compare and contrast their design with their state's current license plate.

Name: _____

State License Plate Research Handout

Use the **PebbleGo Next States** online database to research information about your state. Write the information about your state below.

The name of my state is: _____

The region my state is located in is: _____

My state is best known for: _____

Geography and Weather: _____

History and Government: _____

Industry: _____

People: _____

Landmarks: _____

State Symbols: _____

Fast Facts: _____

Choose one topic above as the focus for your license plate. The picture and words on your license plate design should fit with the topic you choose.

Sketch a picture that represents your state. This will be the background of your license plate.



Write down a nickname for your state. The name of your state and its nickname will be the words on your license plate.

My state could be known as the “_____ State.”

Bibliography: _____