

Bluegrass Band on the Road

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Grade level: 7

Subject area focus: Mathematics

Brief Summary:

Students will calculate costs associated with a road trip for a bluegrass band of six members.

Goals and Objectives:

- Students will use resources provided to calculate costs of a road trip, using good problem-solving techniques.

Summary of Lesson:

- Teacher will give the class a set of facts about a performance trip.
- Students will choose a name for their bands, working in groups of three or four.
- Students will use AA Tour Books, Maps & Calculators to calculate the costs of lodging and gas for the trip.
- Students will record their information in an organized way on paper, and will be prepared to explain how they arrived at their answers.

Evaluation and Assessment:

Teacher will evaluate the written responses of the students, using a rubric set up beforehand.

Follow-up Activities:

Class discussion about other expenses the band would incur on a trip.

Additional Information (including national and/or state requirements or standards addressed:

- Numbers and Operations
- Problem Solving
- Connections

Resources Used

Audio resources

Student-selected bluegrass CDs played as background during work time.

Visual resources

Road Maps

AAA tour books with maps, charts & hotel listings.

Internet Resources

Google map

Mapquest.com

Yahoo.com

Other materials

Maps

Calculators

Computer with internet access

Lesson Plan Outline: Bluegrass Band on the Road

Objectives: Students will use tour books and maps to gather information & data, and calculators to determine costs of lodging and gas for a road trip.

Material used:

AAA Tour Books
Computer with internet access
Maps
Calculators

Prior Knowledge and Experience/Curriculum Content:

Use of table of context and index in books
Basic map-reading skills
Use of calculator
Basic ability to use internet

Procedures:

1. Divide students into groups of three or four. Play bluegrass music while they work.
2. Write destinations on the board. Give them the price of gasoline as of that day, mode of travel and vehicle's miles per gallon.
3. Have students choose a name for their band.
4. Instruct students to calculate the cost of gas and lodging, using materials given.
5. Bring class together for discussion of their answers & explanations of how they solved the problems.

Indicators of success:

Students will

- Arrive at a reasonable amount.
- Be able to provide well-organized steps they followed to arrive at their answers.