Overview

The class firsts works as a whole to determine where local demographics (census) information can be obtained and who will request the information for the class. Working in small groups, students graph the census figures.

Objectives

Students will be able to:

1. Access information from their local governmental agencies.
2. Convert written data into a graphic form that will show change in population over time.
3. Interpret data and draw conclusions about population growth in their area.

Procedure

1. Begin by helping students brainstorm places that may have data about their city, e.g. 10-year census.
2. Democratically select a student to be responsible for phoning local city hall.
3. Once the information is obtained copy and distribute to each group.
4. It is the responsibility of each group to decide which type of graphic form works best for their assignment and what materials they will need.
5. Provide the groups with a rubric so they will be aware of the assignment expectations.
6. Once the graphic is complete, ask students to use the information to draw conclusions about the population changes to their area and possible consequences of those changes.

Assessment

Students are able to complete the assignment and satisfy the rubric.

Content Standards Addressed

Language Arts

Standard 1.1.1 Using reading for multiple purposes, such as enjoyment, gathering
new procedures, and increasing conceptual understanding

Social Studies
Standard 2.4.3 Describe changes in the region over time as well as presently.
Standard 5.1 Inquiry
♦ Use traditional and electronic means to organize social science information and to make maps, graphs and tables
Standard 5.2
♦ Construct an answer to the question posed and support it with evidence and logical argument.
Standard 5.1.1.1
♦ Locate information in local, state, and national communities using a variety of resources.

Math
Standard 3.1.2
♦ Draw, explain and justify conclusions about trends, using data.
Rubric - GRAPH DISPLAY ASSESSMENT

Name_________________________  |  Yes | No

1. Does the graph have a title?  |     |     

2. Does the graph represent the data that is being analyzed?  |     |     
(for example: comparison information, total amounts, change over-time, listings of information, % of whole, etc.)

3. Is the graph readable:
   • Neat  |     |     
   • Shaded or colored dark enough  |     |     
   • Spelling correct  |     |     
   • Labeled completed  |     |     

4. Is the source of information cited?  |     |     

5. Are the authors listed?  |     |     

Comments:

Total score _______