Unit 2: Alaska’s People

Essential Question: What is culture? How does where we live impact how we live?

Learning Targets (SWBAT):
- Compare and contrast the cultures of Alaska Native groups
- Explain how younger generations maintain their traditional culture while adapting to modern lifestyles
- Describe the importance of oral storytelling as a means to pass on traditional beliefs
- Describe the current demographics of Anchorage and compare/contrast to Alaska and the United States

Relevant Standards
AH. PPE 1: compare & contrast geographic regions of AK
AH. PPE 2: Use texts to analyze the similarities/differences in the cultural attributes, movement, interactions, and settlement of AK Native peoples
AH. PPE 3: Use texts/sources to analyze the effect of the historical contributions and/or influences of significant individuals, groups, and local, regional, state, international organizations
AH. ICGP 1: Identify and summarize the structures, functions, and transformation of various attributes of traditional AK Native governance

Lesson Outlines:
1. Culture Notes: What is culture? How do you study it?
   - Cultural archetypes; A Day in Our Bay
2. Reading: Alaska’s Prehistoric and Protohistoric Past
3. Alaska Native Jigsaw Readings
4. Alaska Native Storytelling (Never Alone)
5. Case Studies: Children of the Arctic,
   - Look for cultural archetypes, Branches/Roots
   - NYO, AFN: Examine how groups try to keep their traditions alive
6. Immigration to Alaska and Alaska Demographics
7. Summative Assessment: My Cultural Tree

Lesson 1: Culture Notes
LT: Define culture and identify cultural archetypes for AK Native groups
Materials: Student Note-books
Lesson Outline:
1. PPT notes on Culture
   - Key Vocabulary: Culture, Cultural Archetypes, Stereotypes
   - Tips for Note-Taking
   - Cultural Tree: Branches are what we see, Roots are what actually gives the culture substance
2. Give students a copy of the Culture tree as a rough draft and have them identify their own culture
3. Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain (pg. 24)
   - Branches: Observable (Food, Fashion, Festivals, Beliefs)
   - Roots: Unspoken rules/norms (communication, spirituality, world view, decision making, notions of fairness, etc.)
4. A Day in Our Bay case study
   - Play the clip and have students identify elements of culture that would fit on the branches and the roots
Lesson 2: Prehistory of Alaska Native People
LT: Summarize the prehistoric migration of AK Natives and begin compare/contrast of AK Native cultures
Materials: Chapter 2-1: Alaska’s Prehistoric and Protohistoric Past
Lesson Outline:
2. Guided Reading: Chapter 2-1

Lesson 3: Native People of Alaska: Cultural jigsaws (3 days)
LT: Compare/contrast cultures of AK Native indigenous groups
Materials: Alaska Native Cultures Reading; Investigation Sheet; Chromebooks (Adobe Spark?)
Lesson Outline:
1. Assign Native Groups and Research time
   a. Students will be assigned a native group based on the region they used for the Wilderness Survival project→ Explain to students to identify how the land impacted the lifestyle of the Native group
   b. Students can begin research on the “branches” including Food, Fashion, Festivals, etc. but must also try to explore the roots (communication, belief systems, respect of elders, etc.)
2. Presentation: Students will use Adobe Spark to either create a poster (no video or website yet, save those for end of semester project)

Lesson 4: Alaska Native Storytelling (2 days)
LT: Describe the importance of oral storytelling as a means to pass on traditional beliefs
Materials: Cultural Stories
Lesson Outline:
1. Students will choose a story to read and will then analyze the cultural elements within the story
2. Never Alone-Introduce students to the website where they can learn about the video game and watch videos related to the culture

Lesson 5: Children of the Arctic
LT: Compare/contrast Native cultures and identify how younger generations maintain their culture while adapting to modern lifestyles
Materials: Youtube: Children of the Arctic
Lesson Outline:
1. Play Children of the Arctic
2. Have students identify elements of their traditional culture and elements of a more “modern” culture

Lesson 6: Alaska Today: Modern Demographics
LT: Describe the current demographics of Anchorage and compare to Alaska and the US
Materials: Immigration Passport and demographics sheet
Lesson Outline:
1. The Alien Has Landed quick write
2. Key Vocabulary: Demographics
3. Demographics Graphing: Class, Bartlett, Anchorage, AK, USA
4. Immigration Passport
Lesson 7: Summative Project *My Cultural Tree*

**LT:** Students will create a cultural tree to identify cultural archetypes across Alaska’s population

**Materials:** *My Cultural Tree*

**Lesson Outline:**
1. Students will create a poster of their culture identifying the following themes:
   a. “Branches”: Food, Fashion, Festivals
   b. “Roots”: Communication, Religion, relationship with elders, relationship with the land, etc.