

The background of the slide is a vibrant, sunlit forest scene. It features a dense canopy of green leaves and ferns, with sunlight filtering through to create a dappled light effect. The forest floor is covered with various types of green plants, including what appear to be palm fronds and other tropical-looking foliage. The overall atmosphere is bright and natural.

# STEM Science Camp

Omaha Migrant Project

Rita Miller, Migrant Liaison Specialist

Suzanne Hult, Migrant Teacher Leader

# Rationale for the STEM Camp

- We have developed programming for preschool children, elementary students, and high school students, but in our assessment of services provided, we noticed that we lacked programming at the middle school level.
- Recent additions in the past 2 years:
  - Start Saturday School for middle school students with THRIVE component.
  - Assign Migrant liaisons to the middle schools with the largest migrant count.
  - **2019: STEM Science Camp for middle school students during Spring Break.**

# Theme for the Camp: Survival Island

- Engaging topic and activities
- Some students already had background in survival skills.
  - Personal rainforest background, wanted to topic students to connect their background to STEM.
  - Create a positive STEM learning Environment in a middle school setting.
  - Tied Island Survival to THRIVING on an Island/Growth Mindset.
- Tied to Science Standard:
- SC.7.7 Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems
  - SC.7.7.3 Gather, analyze, and communicate evidence of interdependent relationships in
    - SC.7.7.3.A Construct an explanation that predicts patterns of interactions among organisms across multiple ecosystems.
    - SC.7.7.3.B Evaluate competing design solutions for maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem services.
    - NE endangered species and reintroduction of species
    - SC.7.7.3.C Evaluate competing design solutions using a systematic process to determine how well they meet the criteria and constraints of the problem.
    - SC.7.7.3.D Apply scientific principles to design a method for monitoring and increasing positive human impact on the environment.

# Theme for the Camp: Survival Island

- Supplemental Resource:
  - Teachers Pay Teachers – Island Survival Project Based Learning Packet
  - Can edit worksheets to tailor to your program.
  - Includes video and website links.
  - We adapted the curriculum to meet our content standards in science.
  - Cost: \$4.75!!

# Planning for STEM Camp

- 3-Day Camp during Spring Break.
- Consulted with District Science Coach to incorporate science standards and broad concepts.
- Plan field trips for each day ([community partnerships](#))
  - Low or no cost and experts in their areas.
  - Partnership with YMCA Camp Kitaki to reach out to students who typically do not participate in camps.
  - Partnership with Urban Garden City Sprouts
- Nutrition Services provided free breakfast and lunch.
- Hire bilingual staff.
- Recruit high school migrant students as “Junior Counselors.”
- Arrange transportation.
- Recruit from existing programming (Saturday School).

# Camp Icebreaker

- Welcome to Survival Island!
- Get in groups of \_\_\_\_\_ in a circle and introduce oneself.
- Volunteer 1 will be in the middle of circle.
- Volunteer 2 will start saying another person's name. Volunteer 1 must try to high five the person whose name was called BEFORE that person says another person's name. Repeat...
- If person is high fived, they will be in the middle of circle. Show example.
- Icebreakers and active Brain Breaks are a key part of engagement.

# Fortnite Application



[https://www.reddit.com/r/FortNiteBR/comments/71a34m/nice\\_one\\_building\\_somewhat\\_cool/](https://www.reddit.com/r/FortNiteBR/comments/71a34m/nice_one_building_somewhat_cool/)

# Incorporating Literacy Skills

- KWL chart capitalizes on students' background knowledge of growing, building boats, building shelters.
  - Individual, Small Group, Whole Group
  - Incorporates writing and speaking skills.
  - Coaches use scaffolding according to EL level.
  - KWL whole group discussion was the most powerful part of the camp.
- Station Teaching
  - Passport stamped on completion of station.

# Incorporating Literacy Skills: Journals

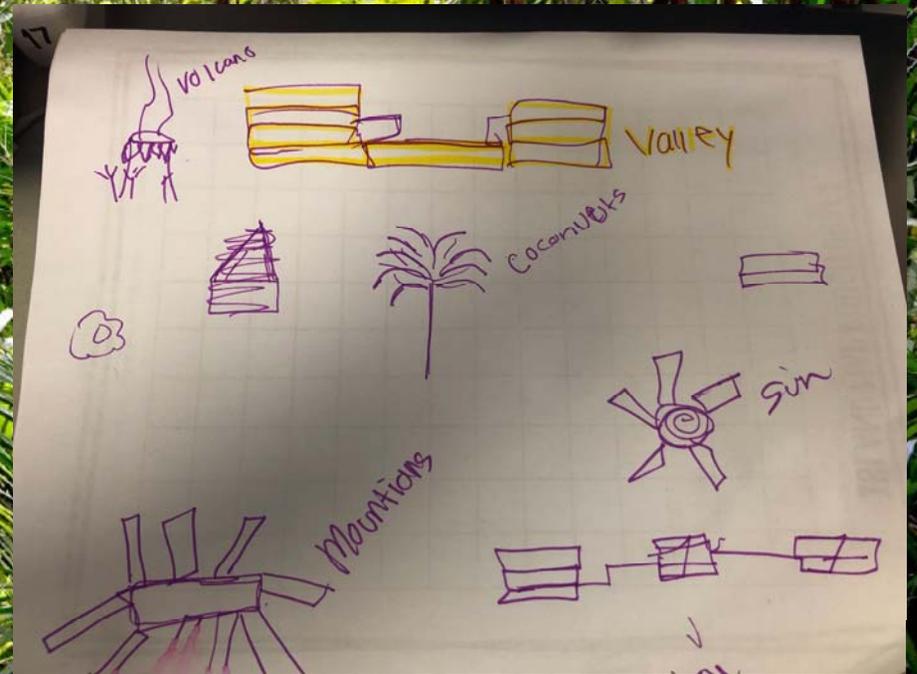
Smith

What do I know about?  
It's hard to build the house  
because it rains. Food and  
how you get it. To not get  
killed.

What I want to know?  
How to contact someone  
to tell them your stuck  
here.

What I found out.  
I found out how to  
build a good house that  
won't get you wet.  
I have now questions  
What will happen to the  
previous life you were living.

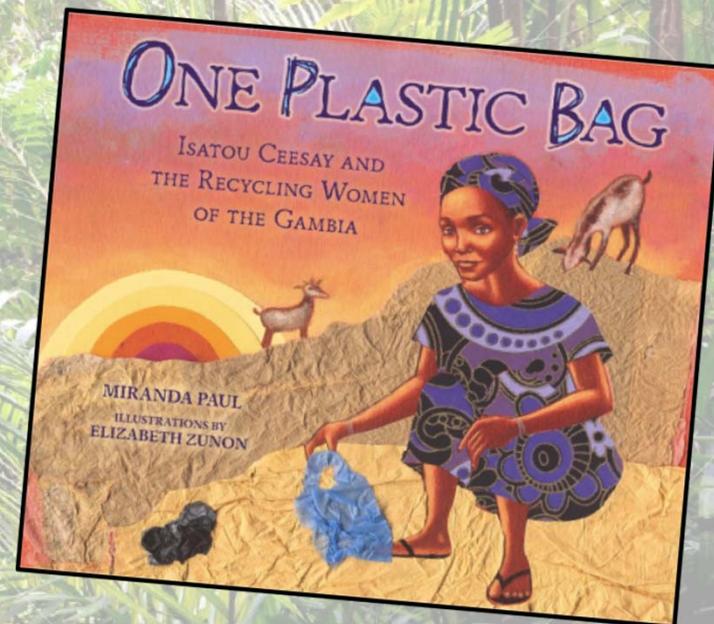
# Incorporating Literacy Skills: Cartography



# Incorporating Literacy Skills

Theme book: *One Plastic Bag*

- *Extension Writing Activity*
- *Making a plastic bag purse*
  - *Crochet or Knot Method*
  - *YouTube Video Guide*



# Lessons Learned from the STEM Camp

## Challenges

- Engaging boys in the activities.
- Language Levels of the students
- Weather

## Solutions

- Positive male role model redirecting the boys.
- “Jr. Counselors” (high school students) who speak the same language as the students.
- Have back-up activities planned.

# Science Pre-test

## Survival Island Camp

March 13, 2019

Name \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is a habitat?

- (a) A home of an animal.
- (b) Something you do that may not be good for you (like biting nails).
- (c) A group of animals.

2. What is an example of something you have seen in a habitat?

An example of something in a habitat is \_\_\_\_\_.

4. A \_\_\_\_\_ is an example of a landform.

- (a) tree
- (b) flower
- (c) volcano

5. Is Cartography the science of making maps?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

6. What is an example of "Going Green"? An example of "Going Green" is

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Score \_\_\_\_ / 5

# Post-Test and Survey

## Day 1: Habitats and Scatter Joy Acres

Excellent Very Good Good Fair Poor

## Day 2: Camp Kitaki

Excellent Very Good Good Fair Poor

## Day 3: Going Green

Excellent Very Good Good Fair Poor

**I understand I can THRIVE in difficult times in my life.**

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree

**What is a habitat?**

- (a) A home of an animal.
- (b) Something you do that may not be good for you (like biting nails).
- (c) A group of animals.

**What is an example of something you have seen in a habitat?**

An example of something in a habitat is \_\_\_\_\_.

**A \_\_\_\_\_ is an example of a landform.**

- (a) tree
- (b) flower
- (c) volcano

**Is Cartography the science of making maps?**

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

**What is an example of "Going Green"? An example of "Going Green" is**

\_\_\_\_\_.

**What was your favorite part of Survival Island Camp?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Post-Test Results

- 17 students participated in Survival Island:
  - 14 students scored proficient on the post-test.
  - 3 students made at least 20% growth.
- **100% of students either scored proficient or made at least 20% growth!**

# Survey: What was your favorite part?

- Building the map/building the shelter/Making a home for animals.
- My favorite part of survival island camp was telling about how animals survive.
- Doing fun things/Having fun with a friend.
- We learn how to plant/when we went to the garden.
- I like the chicken and touch the eggs.
- Everything!
- My favorite part was making smores.

# Certificate of Completion



recognizes

*November Paw*

for successfully completing the STEM Camp: Survival Island.

March 13-15, 2019



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**Jaimie Cogua,**  
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Migrant, and Refugee Education

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**Rita Miller,**  
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