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Lesson Plan for *The Leaning Tower of Pizza Book*

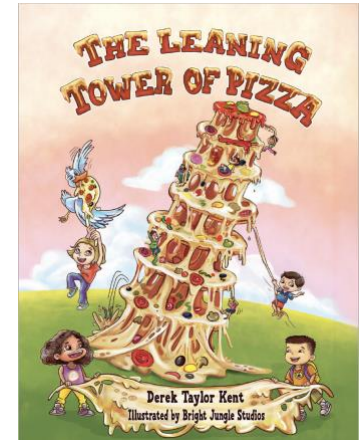
ELD Level: EADV

Book Title: *The Leaning Tower of Pizza*

Author: Derek Taylor Kent

Objective: Learn concepts related to geography, landmarks, monuments, art, architecture and world cultures and foods.

Problem Statement: This story is about a group of children who tell one another about famous places, monuments, and landmarks that they have heard of. The problem is that they misheard the name and their imaginations run wild with possibilities.



VOCABULARY (Wide Exposure)

Word	Friendly Definition/Explanation
Turret	A small tower on top of a larger tower or at the corner of a building or wall, typically of a castle.
Absurd	Wildly unreasonable, illogical, or inappropriate. Out of place.
Gawk	To stare openly or in amazement at something.
Flourishing	Growing or developing rapidly and successfully. Thriving.
Blaze	(in this context) To be the first to do something. To pioneer.
Leonardo Da Vinci	Considered one the great geniuses and talents of all time. A famous painter and inventor who lived during the Renaissance in Italy 1452 AD-1519 AD. Best known for painting the Mona Lisa.
The Louvre	Considered the best art museum in world, located in Paris, France. It houses the Mona Lisa

FIRST READ: Inferences/Modeled Reading Behaviors (second read students make the inferences)

Note: Continue to do what good readers do (make predictions, model asking yourself questions, re-read, summarize, make connections).

- Page 1 - I'm thinking that the other kids in the playground are excited to hear the story about the Leaning Tower of Pizza.
- Page 12 - I'm thinking that the kids enjoyed hearing about the Waffle Tower and now everyone wants to tell a fun story about a place made out of food.
- Page 20 - I'm thinking that the kids don't like that their teacher corrected them about the truth of each landmark and made the places not as fun as they were in their imaginations.

“Why” Question to Conclude: In the end, why did the kids prefer to continue hearing a story about a tower of pizza even when their teacher told them that it's actually the Tower of Pisa?

Geography and History Concepts Focus

SF with language focus: When the teacher revealed the truth, the kids felt _____ because _____, but when they decided to continue telling their own story, they felt _____ because _____.

Use illustrations throughout the book to identify the world monuments they learned about.

Q: What is the real name of the Leaning Tower? (The Leaning Tower of Pisa)

Q: Why does the tower lean? (The soil it was built on was loose and unstable. That's why geology reports are so important before builders start construction. The tower would have fallen over by now if engineers hadn't built supports that keep it up!)

Q: What is the real name of the Waffle Tower? (The Eiffel Tower)

Q: Why is the Eiffel Tower so famous? (The tower was built for the 1889 world's fair to show off French know-how and industrial genius. It subsequently became the powerful and distinctive symbol of the city of Paris. There are two restaurants inside the Eiffel Tower where you can eat.)

Q: Why is it called the Eiffel Tower? (It was named after its creator, Gustav Eiffel, a businessman and engineer who specialized in large-scale metal structures)

Q: What is the real name of the Grape Wall of China? (The Great Wall of China)

Q: How long is the Great Wall of China. (At 21,000 km or 13,000 miles, it's the longest feat in human engineering.)

Q: When and why was it built? (The initial phase of construction started in 770 BC and took over 500 years to finish to 276 BC. That's over 2,700 years ago! The wall continued to be expanded and strengthened for thousands of years all the way until 1878 AD. It took over a million workers to build it. The primary function of the wall was to protect the Chinese empire from Mongolians and other invaders.)

Q: What is the real name of the Donut Lisa? (The Mona Lisa)

Q: Who painted the Mona Lisa? (Leonardo Da Vinci)

Q: Where can you see the Mona Lisa in person? (The Louvre art museum in France)

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Discussion: Have you ever misheard the name of something and found out later you were wrong? What are some funny examples?

Discussion: Have you ever tried a food from a different culture that seemed strange to you? What was it? How did you like the taste?

Activity #1: Next time you're at a restaurant or in a new city, try a food that you've never had before. Write down your thoughts about it. Did you like it? Why or why not? Teachers: To make this easier, bring in a few food items to the classroom for kids to try. Hand out a worksheet called: TRY IT, YOU'LL LIKE IT! On the worksheet, the kids will write down the names of each food, and then write a few sentences about their thoughts. How was the first taste? What about when they finish it? Did they start to like it more? Will they ever want to eat it again?

Ideas for inexpensive, easy foods that work well: Water chestnuts, garbanzo beans, dolma, baklava, kiwi, cherimoya, baguette, lentils, dates

Activity #2: Have each student brainstorm a few places they've heard of, but haven't visited. What city, country, or landmark do they want to visit the most or revisit if they have already been there? What kind of foods do they serve there or think might be served there? After brainstorming, have each student write a short story about visiting this place and about a glorious feast that was served with all of the foods that they brainstormed. Read the stories aloud and then lead a discussion about what places they now want to visit and foods they want to try after hearing about them.

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