



Lesson Plan for Implementing NETS•S—Template I

(More Directed Learning Activities)

Template with guiding questions

Teacher(s)
Name Melinda Butler

Position 1st Grade Teacher

School/District Timber Ridge Elementary/Cobb County

E-mail Melinda.butler@cobbk12.org

Phone 770-642-5621

Grade Level(s) First Grade

Content Area All

Time line January 2013 – May 2013

Standards (What do you want students to know and be able to do? What knowledge, skills, and strategies do you expect students to gain? Are there connections to other curriculum areas and subject area benchmarks?)

Content

Standards ELA1SL4, ELACC1SL1b, ELACC1L2d, ELACC1L2e

NETS*S

Standards: 1b, 2a, 2b, 5c, 5d, 6a,6b,

Overview (a short summary of the lesson or unit including assignment or expected or possible products)

Students will log onto the Eagle Blog that Mrs. Butler has created for our class. They will respond to a current post or create their own post. They need to stay on topic if they are responding to a current post. If they are creating a new post, they must provide a message to others about the eagles nest and then finish by posting a question so that others can respond to them. Before hitting submit, they must double check their work to ensure they have used correct punctuation and capitalization in their sentences. They must also look for any misspelled words, especially the word, “eagle”. I will use a rubric to grade their posts.

Essential Questions (What essential question or learning are you addressing? What would students care or want to know about the topic? What are some questions to get students thinking about the topic or generate interest about the topic? What questions can you ask students to help them focus on important aspects of the topic? What background or prior knowledge will you expect students to bring to this topic and build on?)

What question would you like to ask about the Decorah Eagles, their nest, or their eaglets?

There are three essential questions used in this task as I was giving them a choice on the type of post they wanted to create. What have I learned about eagles through blogging? How has the eagle changed since it hatched a month ago? What type of question should I end with to make readers want to read and respond to my posts?

Some questions that I used to get them thinking about the comments that they were going to put on the blog were: What have you learned from watching the eagles for the last month? How has the eaglet changed since he first hatched?

The background knowledge that my students bring to this assignment is that they have learned about animals in their animal unit. They have learned about growth and development stages. They understand that babies are completely dependent on parents at first. They are watching as this eaglet is venturing around the nest on its own that it is beginning to become more independent. It still is being fed by its parents. The children know that it will not be able to fly off on its own until it is 12 weeks old. They are getting to see firsthand all that they have learned in their animal unit.

Assessment: What will students do or produce to illustrate their learning? What can students do to generate new knowledge? How will you assess how students are progressing (formative assessment)? How will you assess what they produce or do? How will you differentiate products?

The students will create a post on the Eagle Blog. After they post a comment, they will add a question that will invite a peer to come back to their post and answer it. They will generate new knowledge by reading the books and going to the online activities that have links on the blogroll. These links will take them to two interactive sites about animals. Here they can gather new facts and information about eagles and their behaviors. I will assess them using the rubric that I have given them before they started this activity. They will earn a 1, 2, or a 3 in each category. I will be looking for correct spelling of the word, “eagle”. I will be scoring them on usage of correct punctuation and capitalization. I will also grade them for posting a question related to their post on the blog. I will differentiate this task by being available to guide those that may need assistance with logging onto the Eagle Blog. It is a lengthy process and a few may need me there for support.

Resources: How does technology support student learning? What digital tools, and resources—online student tools, research sites, student handouts, tools, tutorials, templates, assessment rubrics, etc—help elucidate or explain the content or allow students to interact with the content? What previous technology skills should students have to complete this project?)

Technology supports the learning in our ELA and our Science areas. I used the <http://kidblog.org/home/>

Website to sign my class up for their own blog and introduce my students to blogging. We started our own class blog: <http://kidblog.org/MrsButlersEagleBlog/> about an eagle's nest in Platteville, Colorado. My goal was to be able to see this live eagle nest via an eagle cam. Then the students would comment and post changes that occur in the nest, with the eggs, the eaglets, and even changes in the weather throughout the rest of the school year.

I also gave them additional tools to use to gain further information about eagles since we had been watching this nest when the eggs were first laid. Those additional interactive websites were:

http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/web_games_trivia_animal.htm and <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/animals/creaturefeature/>.

The children were given a task card with their instructions along with a rubric to guide them in creating their posts.

The previous technology skills needed to complete this task are: logging into school computer, logging onto the school's homepage, then logging into Mrs. Butler's website which is where they will find the link to our class Eagle Blog. Once they are on the blog, they will be able to access the additional sites where they can learn more about eagles. They can also get access to the Eagle Cam in Colorado so they can watch it for a little bit before creating their post and question.

Instructional Plan Preparation: What student needs, interests, and prior learning provides a foundation for this lesson? How can you find out if students have this foundation? What difficulties might students have?

The prior learning the students had was learning about animals in our previous Science unit. They learned about the basic needs and growth and development of animals. We culminated this unit by going to the Atlanta Zoo for a field trip and choosing an animal to do an in-depth research project on and then present it to the class. This obviously was a very interesting unit for all students and I feel comfortable that they all have a solid foundation on animals. I have concerns with one child who isn't interested in working on the computer much and doesn't have the confidence to get from site to site on her own. She will be seated close to the aisle so I can get to her easily and watch that she is making good progress while we do this assignment in the computer lab.

Management Describe the classroom management strategies will you use to manage your students and the use of digital tools and resources. How and where will your students work? (small groups, whole group, individuals, classroom, lab, etc.) What strategies will you use to achieve equitable access to the Internet while completing this lesson? Describe what technical issues might arise during the Internet lesson and explain how you will resolve or troubleshoot them?

The students will do this assignment in our Computer Lab. The students are pretty computer savvy and can log in and get the necessary sites without much guidance. Our school has internet access and there are enough computers in our lab so that each child will have their own computer. They will work individually on this task. The only technical issues I foresee is technical difficulties; internet issues. If this were to happen, I would have to leave the computer lab and re-schedule our lab visit. Some may have trouble if they choose to insert a photo. At times, they want to add one and I have to assist them with that. Other than that, I do not expect that I will have to troubleshoot any other issues since they are already familiar with the blog setting. They have been posting comments and some have been uploading photos for over a month now on a regular basis.

Instructional Strategies and Learning Activities – Describe the research-based instructional strategies you will use with this lesson. How will your learning environment support these activities? What is your role? What are the students' roles in the lesson? How can you ensure higher order thinking at the analysis, evaluation, or creativity levels of Bloom's Taxonomy? How can the technology support your teaching? What authentic, relevant, and meaningful learning activities and tasks will your students complete? How will they build knowledge and skills? How will students use digital tools and resources to communicate and collaborate with each other and others? How will you facilitate the collaboration?

My role will be facilitator. The students will be able to view the eagles through the eagle cam on their own. Next, they will go to the Eagle Blog where they will log in and create their own post about the growth of the eaglet. Their higher level thinking will come when they need to produce a question that will relate to their post but will also be inviting to their peers. I really will be walking around and maybe helping spell a word here and there but other than that, I will not be needed. The students will explore other posts once they finish their own. They will have the opportunity to comment on other students previous posts as well. Technology is supporting my teaching by interesting them in this eagle nest. It is a real life event that is happening right now in another state. In addition to teaching about how animals survive in the wild, it also teaches about weather and geography. Through watching this eagle nest, the students have seen bad snowstorms two weeks after the eaglets hatched which led to the deaths of two of the three eaglets. This was hard for them to accept but again, real life. How often do students get to see what happens in the wild under these conditions? They get to see how mom or dad leaves the nest to go down to the stream near the base of the tree and come back with a flapping fish which will be their dinner. Right away the parent starts tearing away at the fish to feed the eaglet and itself.

The students have become so knowledgeable about animals in the wild. They so understand about what animals must do to survive in the wild. They are getting to see this firsthand. They will build knowledge and skills by continuing to watch the eaglet as it matures and prepares to fly off on its own. They will collaborate their thoughts and ideas by commenting on each other's posts and continuing to create new posts as the eaglets grows. Now that I've gotten them started and they each have their own login, they can continue blogging all through summer with their fellow classmates. I am no longer needed as a resource again, unless it is to help spell a word or remind a student how to get started again.

Differentiation (How will you differentiate content and process to accommodate various learning styles and abilities? How will you help students learn independently and with others? How will you provide extensions and opportunities for enrichment? What assistive technologies will you need to provide?)

I will differentiate by placing my needy student near an aisle in the computer lab so that I will have easy access to her. I will brainstorm ideas with any child that has a hard time thinking of a post to write or a question to write that relates to their post. I will have them double check their own posts using the guidelines in the rubric that I've provided. Opportunities for enrichment will include going to other posts and commenting on those. As an extension, they can look up information from the interactive sites to post for others to read. With my current class, I do not need to provide additional assistive technologies.

Reflection (Will there be a closing event? Will students be asked to reflect upon their work? Will students be asked to provide feedback on the assignment itself? What will be your process for answering the following questions?)

- Did students find the lesson meaningful and worth completing?
- In what ways was this lesson effective?
- What went well and why?
- What did not go well and why?
- How would you teach this lesson differently?

Reflection: Students are always anxious to go back to their posts to find out if any peers have commented on them or answered their question. This was an effective lesson as the class was able to go on the Mrs. Butler's Eagle Blog at the same time. Normally, our class has to take turns and occasionally even has to wait a few days before they get a free computer during writing workshop. Everything went as well as I could have expected. I was very pleased with the outcome. It went so fluently and I was literally a facilitator who was just there walking around with hardly anyone needing me. I would do nothing different next time. I'm very pleased as to how it smoothly it went.

Closure: Anything else you would like to reflect upon regarding lessons learned and/or your experience with implementing this lesson. What advice would you give others if they were to implement the lesson?

I'm so proud of my students for being so thoughtful and caring about these animals in the wild. Their posts show the interest they have for these animals. They are always thinking and wondering what will happen in the future. They enjoy looking up information about eagles so they can share with their peers. They have enjoyed watching this eaglet grow so far and I'm predict that they will continue to blog about him even after school is out and it is no longer an assignment. One thing that helped us move through this task so smoothly is the fact that I modeled how to get to the Eagle Blog ahead of time on the smartboard. That was a refresher for most since we hadn't been on it in some time. I definitely would advise modeling something like that if you wanted your class to get to a certain site on their own in a setting like a computer lab where they were all working independently. The only troubleshooting issue we had was when one of my students wanted to upload a photo that she had seen on google images at home, the night before. She was not able to do that independently so I had to help her. She was confident that she knew how to do it because she has done it at home before. When she was trying to do it at school, she realized that the school computers are not just like her home computer. You cannot add a photo on our school computers the same way you do at home. That was a little more difficult for her to understand.



FSV Eagle Cam 1, Xcel Energy, Inc. 04/19/2013 01:25:45 PM



Name _____

Eagle Blog Assignment

My password for the Eagle Blog is _____

1. Login to the Eagle Blog [Mrs. Butler's Eagle Blog](#)
2. Go to the Eagle Cam and check out eagles for a few minutes.
3. Your choices are:
 - a. Create a new post telling us what you've learned from the Eagle Blog.
 - b. Create a post stating what you have liked about blogging.
 - c. Create a new post and describe how the eaglets have grown in the last month.
4. At the end of your post, add a question so someone else can respond to you. Make sure your question relates to your post and has a question mark.
5. Double check for correct capitalization and punctuation before submitting your post.
6. Log out.

Extension/Challenge:

If you finish early, you can go to the blog roll and search the two interactive animal websites to look up more information about eagles to share with us on a new post. Can't wait to see what you post today about the eaglets!

Name _____ Date _____

1st Grade Eagle Blog Rubric

Category	1	2	3
I logged into Kidblog	I forgot my password	I needed help logging in	I logged alone
I went to the Eagle Cam	I forgot to go to the Eagle Cam	X	I went to the Eagle Cam
I created a new post	I didn't create a new post	I created a new post but didn't add a question.	I created a new post and added a question.
I used correct capitalization and punctuation	I had several capitalization and punctuation errors.	I used some correct punctuation and capitalization.	I double-checked my work and used correct capitalization and punctuation.