

The science of teaching

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The advantage of being a science teacher when teaching boys

- Science is active
- Science is taught from an iconic and kinesthetic perspective
- Science is collaborative
- Science is loud, messy, gross, cool
- Science uses lots of technology and gizmos
- Science is involved with the “real” world

New Zealand Wars

- Pick one
- Each boy is assigned to be either Māori or British and to pick an individual to research
- Once boys know about their man and what he did during the conflict, the class restages the event
- Boys will “file a report” with their leader
- Final step is to write the obituary of their man as he would like to be remembered

The Wairau Confrontation

This confrontation at Wairau is regarded by some historians as the first engagement of the New Zealand Wars. Effectively, it was a confrontation between a group of Nelson settlers and local Māori. According to James Belich, at this time, Māori always “backed themselves against any armed posse of settlers.” However, the British Army was another matter, presenting Māori with a complex raft of new challenges; and this came soon enough in the far north, in 1845, with the outbreak of the Northern War.

www.newzealandwars.co.nz

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|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Edward Gibbon Wakefield | perfect society | Australia (failed) |
| Missionaries | New Zealand Company | New Zealand |
| British Government Māori | Treaty of Waitangi | Settlements Wellington Nelson |
| | | Wairau Affray |

Poetry

- Don't tell the students what the rules are
- Give them the poems and let them figure them out
- Sources
 - <http://freewebs.com/limericks/index.htm>
 - <http://www.funny-limericks-for-everyone.1ton.info/>
 - <http://www.funny-poems-for-free.com>
 - http://hrsbstaff.ednet.ns.ca/davidc/6c_files/Poem%20pics/cinquaindescrip.htm
 - <http://www.famouspoetsandpoems.com>

Literary Scavenger Hunt

- Finding something hidden in literature – trains proofreading skills
- Easter Eggs – hidden treasures
 - Either hidden ideas, or hidden people
- Pirate treasure hunt
 - Maps are involved, either real ones, or those made up from the book
- I Spy
 - You define the categories, students find the exemplars

Word of the Day

- Each student will bring in a word from something he has read – can be associated with the class or not, teacher’s decision
- Student will look up the word and find its etymology, all the meanings, all grammar uses, and any connotation if appropriate
- Information is either written on the board or displayed by a card
- Test every several weeks

Deconstruction of Literature

- How to teach boys to write without lifting a pencil!
- Sentences
 - Two consecutive sentences, use punctuation for elementary students
 - Focus is on grammar and word placement
- Paragraphs
 - Two consecutive paragraphs
 - Focus is on shaping a paragraph, writing style, getting the meaning across to the reader

Others

- Timelines
- Family trees
- Anticipation slideshow – prereading
- Comic strips
- Book Bingo
- Bookmarks