

Encounter Lesson – Explorers in the Land of the Incas



Common Core Standards

Anchor Standards: Speaking and Listening - Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

5. *Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.*
6. *Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and communicative tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.*

Anchor Standard: Reading – Key Ideas and Details

3. *Analyze how and why individuals, events or ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.*

Directions

This Encounter Lesson may be done at the beginning of a unit on the exploration of the Americas or it may be done after you have read and examined a variety of informational texts about this time period.

Boundary Breaker

Tell about a time when you went somewhere you had never been before. What surprised you? What was different from what you thought it would be?

Setting the Stage

You are a young Spanish explorer living in the 1500s who is part of an expedition team entering a land that is inhabited by a mysterious people named the Inca. No one with you has ever been here before and you have no idea what to expect. Your life as you know it will forever be changed.

Leading Questions

1. Describe what your ship looks like and how you feel as you enter this strange land. There are mountains, highlands and jungles depending on what part of the Incan empire you land in. Decide where you are and describe what the land looks like.
2. This expedition might be dangerous. Why are you exploring this land instead of staying home in Spain?
3. Tell a story about how you encounter the first Incan.
4. If your expedition team had a motto what would it be?