Lesson Plan 2 - Mapping out a Geocache
Grade level: 8th
Subject: Communications
Lesson Plan 2 Time: 1 Hour
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Lesson Summary: Students will layout the key elements of creating a Geocache using Inspiration for Palm graphic organization software.

Lesson Objective: Given a Palm handheld device loaded with Inspiration for Palm graphic organization software, students will create an concept map, using no more than a 25 visual diagrams, depicting the items found within a typical Geocache.

Materials or Additional Resources:

1. Palm handheld devices loaded with Inspiration for palm. (Download 30 day free trial)
2. High speed internet access for viewing shockwave videos. (Download Macromedia Shockwave Player)

Lesson Prerequisites:

1. Students will have received general instruction over how a PDA works and watched tutorial movies over some basic operations and skills in using a Palm handheld device and built in applications.
2. Students will have learned how to use the beaming feature of the Palm handheld device.
3. Prior to creating the concept map students will have read about concept mapping via the Inspiration Website, viewed the Inspiration for handheld's interactive demonstration, and viewed the view tutorial movies over how to use basic features of Inspiration.
4. Students will review an example of a concept map to gain an understanding of what their final project may resemble.
5. Students will have practiced making concept maps using Inspiration on desktop computers in the Jr. High Computer Lab.
6. Students will have completed Lesson Plan 1 Researching Geocaching.

Lesson Procedures and Tasks:

Introduction

Introduce your lesson by recreating the concept map example on the blackboard as a refresher for students. Have the students open the example on their palm pilots, so they can refer to it as they create their own concept map.

Creating the Concept Map

Quickly review each step of creating a Geocache from Lesson 1: Researching Geocaching.

Explain to student that they will have 6 visual diagrams that consist of central diagram bubble and then one diagram bubble extending out from the central bubble that represents each of the 5 steps needed to create a cache. Each of the 5 bubbles will in turn have more offshoots that will expand until they have a complete concept map that properly lays

out all the steps of creating a cache. Tell the students that some diagram bubbles will be more detailed then others and will therefore have more offshoots. For example, Step 2 - Preparing Your Cache will probably require more offshoots then say Step 4 - Reporting Your Cache. This is because Step 2 is a critical aspect of creating a cache and this is the step where student are asked to physically create a product. Assist the students by modeling your own concept map over creating a cache on the blackboard or using a Proxima projector connected to a Palm device.

Five steps to creating a cache

Step 1 - Research a cache location.
Step 2 - Preparing Your Cache.
Step 3 - Placing Your Cache.
Step 4 - Report the Cache.
Step 5 - Maintain the cache.

Final Product: Tell the students that after everyone has completed their own concept map over how to create a cache that they will beam one another and the teacher their completed concept map. A copy of the student created concept maps will be saved on the network drive and printed off for further discussion in the regular classroom.

Individual Assessments:

1. Mapping out a Geocache Multimedia Project Rubric.

Conclusion: By successfully completing this lesson, students will have a better understanding of Geocaching, various software tools, and various other online resources that they will use to complete this Unit Plan. Students will utilize the concept map created as a point of reference to guide them through to the completion of an actual cache. During future class periods, a final combined concept map maybe crated using aspects of all the student concept maps. The combined concept map can be used to depict how they will proceed as a class towards completing the project of creating a class cache.

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