



Bonspiel! The History of Curling in Canada

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Educational Resources

Curling Pin Creation

Description of Activity

After reading "Burned Stones: Curling Lore," students will look at the variety of curling pins, which are avidly collected by curlers. They will write a report based on their research, and create their own design for a curling pin to present orally to their class.

Time

Two to three 40-minute lessons

Integration

This lesson can easily be integrated into

- a visual arts unit that focuses on the use of design and colour
- a language unit that involves reading and interpreting non-fiction materials
- a language unit that focuses on explaining procedures and summarizing

Assessment

The teacher may wish to record anecdotal observations using the Curling Pin Creation assessment form.

Activity

- Ask students what kinds of personal items they have traded with friends or peers (hockey cards, CDs, food, video games, clothes, etc.).
- Have students read "Curling Pins -- Collecting or Trading," the first selection in "Burned Stones: Curling Lore," as a class guided-reading activity or working independently.
- Ask a series of questions based on the selection.
- Invite a curler from a local club to come and speak to the class and to show the students their curling pins.
- Ask students to choose five pins to write about. Each paragraph will outline the name of the pin, state where it is from, describe the design and explain why they chose it. They must write an introductory paragraph explaining the assignment and a closing paragraph.
- In the next lesson, provide students with a selection of materials with which to design and create their own curling pin (paper, markers, paint, modelling clay, etc.). If desired, safety pins may be hot-glued to the back to create an actual pin.
- Ask the students to orally explain their pin design, and to summarize what they have learned about curling pins.