



Drexel-SDP GK-12 LESSON

- Lesson Title and Identifier:
Title: Astronomy and Me: Nuevo Teotihuacán
Identifier: 3.7
- Module: Astronomy
- Subject Area (Unit): Astronomy
- Concept: Vocabulary
Mesoamerican
Nuevo
Aztecs
Mayan
Olmec
Top View
- Objectives:
The task will introduce the impact society has on science, engineering and the environment.
- Keywords: Science, Engineering, Culture, Mesoamerican, Nuevo, Aztecs, Mayan, Olmec
- PA Academic Standards:
Science 3.1.7 Unifying Themes
3.2.7 Inquiry and Design
Math 2.3 Measurement and Estimation
2.9 Geometry
- Grade Level: 6th
- Setting/Group Size: 30 students
- Duration/Time Required: 1-2 class periods
- Materials List (include safety equipment if applicable)
Pencil
Protractors & Compasses
Scissors

Tape/Glue
Rulers

- Methods and Procedure:

Step 1: Review with students some aspects about Mesoamerican cultures, such as food, commerce, government, agriculture, and religion. (They should have already studied Latin and South America in their social studies course.) Discuss the design and layout of Teotihuacán. Present the students with the challenge of designing a New (Nuevo) Teotihuacán.

Step 2: Present the students with the following design parameters:

1. Each team must select a Mesoamerican culture.
2. The city must be designed around a celestial event. (If possible, have them do some library research on a Mesoamerican culture. This will give them an understanding of what the Aztecs/Mayan/Olmec/etc cultures thought was important.)
3. They will be given a location, along with information about the resources found in the area.
4. The city must hold at least 500 people.
5. The buildings should be consistent with typical Mesoamerican structures. (i.e. no steel skyscrapers.)
6. The city needs to include housing, temples, hospitals, markets, roads, running water, waste removal, and a town square.
7. Students must keep a log of their decisions and thought processes.

Step 3: Have the students complete “top views” of their city designs.

Step 4: Have the students outline their plans for maintaining their natural resources, disposing of waste, and keeping their city clean.

Step 5: If time permits, have the students build a model of their city and present it to the class.

- Assessment

Students will be evaluated on a scale from 0 to 4 on:

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Team Work	Participation	Task Completion	Presentation	Quality of Analysis

- Authors

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