

Montpelier High School

Sustainability: La Papa (Potato unit)

Spanish 4

Standards:

USA- ACTFL- American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language: Standards for Foreign Lang. Learning

Strand: Communication: Communicate in languages other than English

Standard 1.1: Students engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.

Standard 1.2: Students understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics.

Standard 1.3: Students present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics.

Strand: Cultures: Gain knowledge and understanding of other cultures

Standard 2.1: Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of the culture studied.

Standard 2.2: Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the products and perspectives of the culture studied.

Strand: Connections: Connect with other disciplines and acquire information

Standard 3.1: Students reinforce and further their knowledge of other disciplines through the foreign language.

Standard 3.2: Students acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints that are only available through the foreign language and its cultures.

Strand: Comparisons: Develop insight into the nature of language and culture

Standard 4.2: Students demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own.

Strand: Communities: Participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world

Standard 5.1: Students use the language both within and beyond the school setting.

Time Frame: 4-5 weeks with alternating 80-minute block schedule

Essential Question: What can we learn about culture through an in depth study of native plants?

Sequence of Unit:

- Introduction – survey about personal relationship with the potato
- History – PBS site Botany of Desire, reading in Spanish
- Food – nutrition facts, recipe
- Legends – origin legend in Spanish from S. America
- Modern Challenges – readings in both Spanish and English on biodiversity and climate change, video (Spanish and English) about the International Potato Center, National Geographic slides of S. American potato varieties.
- Service – Planting (and later harvesting)
- Summative assessment – Native Plant Project

