

iCONN Learning Activity

MTV Goes to Spain

Level: High School

Task: The producers of The Real World (TRW) want the show to be international so the next season will take place in Spain. The show's participants will live and work in Spain. Their work assignment will be to act as tour guides, hosting different groups of American students on trips with their language classes. The Spanish 2 class has been selected to scout out the various Spanish cities and report back to the TRW producers. Your job is to convince the producers that YOUR city is THE city; it's where the next season should be filmed. Students will work in groups of three to prepare a 10-15 minute oral presentation in English, with visuals, in order to WOW the show's producers. Students will prepare an advertisement in Spanish that entices high school Spanish students in the United States to go to their city and tour with the TRW participants. The advertisement should include the following grammatical structures: 1 suggestion (que tal si, por que no...) 1 example of "ir + infinitive", 1 expression of emotion, 1 climate description. Content of the advertisement must include climate, tourist attractions and a festival of the city. Content must include, but is not limited to: geography and climate, tourist attractions, remarkable architecture, museums, historical sites, festivals, famous citizens, transportation (how will the TRW participants get around?). Cities: Segovia, Toledo, Madrid, Salamanca, Cordoba, Granada, Sevilla, Pamplona, Los Paises Vascos, Santiago de Compostela, Barcelona, and Valencia. Remember: This is MTV! The producers are looking for something "catchy." Presentation is very important. Make it interesting. Role play? Pretend to be an historical figure: Interview a person off the street in your city? How are you going to "sell" your city?

Research Question: Why is the Spanish city you selected the most interesting city in Spain?

Content Area(s): World Languages - Spanish 2

State Content Standard(s):

World Languages:

Programs Goal: As a result of education in Grades K-12, students will gain knowledge and understandings of other cultures. Standard 4. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the traditions, products and perspectives of the cultures studied.

iCONN Database(s):

General Reference Center Gold: This database contains full text articles from encyclopedias, reference books, newspaper references, and periodicals.

iCONN Newsstand: This database contains full text coverage of six newspapers: The Christian Science Monitor, The Hartford Courant, The Los Angeles Times, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and The Washington Post.

InfoTrac Student Edition: This database contains full-text magazine articles.

Associated Press Photo Archive: This database contains over 750,000 photos and graphics from the Associated Press. The Associated Press was established in 1847, so the archive includes historical photographs.

Search Strategy:

Start with General Reference Center Gold to find a background article. Read the background article to learn general information about YOUR CITY.

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on "Select iCONN resources"

3. Open *General Reference Center Gold*
4. Use a *Subject guide* search (click on the Subject guide search link)
5. Limit the search *to articles with full text only*
6. In the search box, enter **YOUR CITY**
7. Look at the results list (The number of words is given so you can judge the length of the article. The results list also contains the *type of source: reference book, encyclopedia, magazine* and so forth.)
8. Open and read relevant documents
9. Print and/or email documents, as appropriate

Alternate Search Strategies:

See if there is current information in a newspaper about YOUR CITY.

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Click on *Clear Checkmarks*
4. Click on the category *Newspapers* to search all newspapers simultaneously
5. In the search box, enter **YOUR CITY**.
6. Click on the number of results shown next to a newspaper to get to the results screen
7. Click on the article’s title or *Full text* to view the article
8. From within the newspaper database that you’ve selected, you can do an *advanced search* to further refine your search parameters. (With an advanced search you can link terms with *AND, OR, NOT* and you can indicate where your search term is found (*citation and abstract, author, subject*, and so forth.). You can also limit your search *to full text articles* and *to specific dates*

-- OR --

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Open *InfoTrac Student Edition*
4. Choose *Subject guide* search
5. Limit the articles to full text
6. In the search box, enter **YOUR CITY**
7. Look at the results list (The number of words is given so you can judge the length of the article. The results list also contains the *type of source: reference book, encyclopedia, magazine* and so forth.)
8. Open and read relevant documents
9. Print and/or email documents, as appropriate

See if there are photographs about YOUR CITY/TOPIC.

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
 2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
 3. Open *Associated Press Photo Archive*
 4. You don’t need to fill in all three fields, but the more information you can give, the more accurate your search will be
- ? *WHAT Field:* Use *single quote marks* around names or any string of words to tell the archive to search for words adjacent to each other.
- ? *WHEN Field:* Enter *specific dates as month/day/complete year* (For a range of years, enter the appropriate range in complete years. (For example, *From 2000 to 2004*)
- ? *WHERE Field:* Searches city, state and country. (Do not use abbreviations. Use *single quote marks* to search for words adjacent to each other. For example: ‘Madrid, Spain’)
- ? For more instructions read the online *User Guide*

Adaptations for Differentiated Learning:

Students having difficulty are given extra assistance.

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