Ancient Trade Routes Lesson Reflection

Description: I created a lesson for my students on the historical trade routes that will be taught by the use of Power Point presentations in the classroom through guided instruction and with technology (a student centered WebQuest using the internet). The students will learn about geographical locations of the early trade route centers. Each trade route station is known for certain cultural contributions. The students will learn why each trade route station is significant in terms of early trade. The students will identify natural resources that were traded or exchanged. Following the classroom instruction, students will complete the interactive WebQuest that has assessment mini quizzes (embedded google docs), and a final project assignment (Google Earth Pro) covering all the material pertaining to the ancient trade routes. This WebQuest interactive lesson also meets both the Ohio Content Standards and the ISTE Technology Standards guidelines.

Impact: This technology infused WebQuest employs a variety of instructional tools and resources that helps to impact student learning. The students will learn and see how technology can be implemented and incorporated into lessons to make them more engaging. The instructional design and interactive content of this interactive WebQuest helps to create a visual component that is sometimes missing in books and lectures. This WebQuest uses videos, informational websites, online assessments, and Google Suite tools to give students a variety of learning tools. The videos embedded will provide the students with a visual learning that helps them to better see and understand the historical ancient trade routes. The use of WebQuests that incorporate technology gives students hands on learning experiences, while also incorporating audio and visual technology that students are accustomed to using on a regular day to day basis that will keep them engaged and motivated.

Intent: Preparation of educators in all technology areas is critical to the task of contributing to and improving academic achievement levels. Integrating technology into lessons is vital for educators considering how technology is steadily improving and increasingly impacting how students learn in today's society. WebQuests that incorporate technology are useful for teachers to use as an educational tool to fully engage students with content knowledge-based lessons. The purpose and intent for creating this interactive technology infused WebQuest was to let inner-city urban (public school) children have access to computers and the internet so that they can gain 21st Century skills. This is also an effort put forth to eliminate the digital divide that we see a lot of urban inner-city children facing on a consistent basis. With the use of many forms of multimedia and technology, this WebQuest gives students a variety of ways to learn the historical ancient trade routes. This WebQuest is an effective means by creating a student-centered approach to learning. Teachers must have the understanding that students learn in different ways and have various learning styles. I believe that this is an excellent tool and an innovative approach to education. I understand the importance of technology, pedagogy, and

content for teachers when developing lessons. This WebQuest is an example of how to successfully incorporate technology and social studies content.