History through monuments

By Sriparna Tamhane | Aug 22, 2012

One of the most important aspects of heritage education is experiencing our culture first hand by visiting a historical building. A historical monument is a rich source of History. It gives us a sense of wonder and makes us curious to know more about the past connected with it. The study of a monument helps the students construct History through observation. The activity generates interest in historical buildings and develops observation skills. It also develops their aesthetic sensibilities and instills an appreciation of elements of architecture and our cultural heritage.

**Duration:**
(All day)

**Support Material:**
- resource_worksheet_sanchi_stupa.pdf

**Steps:**

**Step 1: Preparation**
- Choose a monument in the neighbourhood that you would like the students to explore
- Visit the site beforehand to find out the scope of the study
- Think about what you can do at the site with your students
- Check for clearances and permission needed before the visit
- Check for entrance fees
- Check which days are best suited for school visits
- Plan for travel time to and from the site
- Design a worksheet based on the monument which helps the students to observe better and be actively involved in constructing the history of the monument.

**Step 2: Exploring the monument (Resource - Worksheet_Sanchi stupa)**

With the help of the worksheet, allow the students to construct the history of the monument. A sample worksheet has been given to give an idea. Similar worksheets can be made on any monument that one wishes to study.

**Step 3: Sketching the monument**

Ask the students to sketch the monument or a part of it that inspires them

**Step 4: Creating a brochure**

Ask the students to make a brochure on the monument, using their knowledge of the history and the architecture connected with the monument. Ask them to justify the need for protecting the monument.

(Do send us the details if your students conduct a study of a local monument!)

**Assessment:**

Assessment will happen through the following activities:
- Observing a monument and constructing the history of the monument
- Demonstrating their appreciation of the architecture through a sketch
- Justifying the need for preserving a historical monument
- Creating a brochure on the monument , using their knowledge of History

**Objective:**
The students will:

- Observe a monument and construct the history of the monument
- Demonstrate their appreciation of the architecture through a sketch
- Justify the need for preserving a historical monument
- Create a brochure on the monument, using their knowledge of History

Category:
Classroom Resources
Subject: Social Studies
Board: All boards
Grade/Standard: Class 6-8
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