Grade : 3rd
Strategy : Predicting
Technique : Story Mapping
Text Type : Media Literacy

Discovering the Magic of Christmas Markets

Aims of the lesson:

- To help students understand the significance of Christmas markets in European culture.
- To encourage imaginative thinking and personal reflections on holiday traditions.
- To promote vocabulary development related to holiday celebrations.

Text for the lesson:

Introduction:

Prepare to experience the enchantment of European Christmas markets, a festive holiday event celebrated throughout the continent. We will embark on a magical journey filled with twinkling lights, delicious treats, and joyful traditions. Join us as we dive into the heartwarming world of European Christmas markets!

As the holiday season approaches, European Christmas markets spring to life, transforming towns into festive wonderlands. Twinkling lights adorn charming wooden stalls, creating a warm and inviting atmosphere. Visitors are drawn to the delicious scents of roasted chestnuts, mulled wine, and festive treats wafting through the air. Colorful ornaments and intricate decorations reflect the joy of the season, captivating everyone who strolls by.

Families gather to enjoy traditional music, festive performances, and the joy of togetherness. Children laugh and play, their excitement palpable as they sip hot chocolate and decorate cookies. Each market tells a unique story of local culture and traditions, celebrating the spirit of giving and community.

The enchantment of Christmas markets evokes a sense of nostalgia, reminding us all of the magic of the holidays and the importance of cherishing time with loved ones. As night

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falls, the atmosphere becomes even more magical, leaving lasting memories that warm the heart long after the season ends.

Process Phase 1: Planning (Teachers' perspective)
During this stage, the teacher prepares:

- The text "Discovering the Magic of Christmas Markets" for reading.
- Questions and activities for making connections.
- Vocabulary materials for student engagement.

Cognitive Stage 1 (Students' perspective)
Step 1: Sensory Prediction
Activity:

- Present images related to European Christmas markets.
- Prompt students to close their eyes and envision themselves in a Christmas market, asking:
  - *What do you see, hear, and smell?*
- Have them share their sensory experiences with a partner or write them down in their journals.

Process Phase 2: Vocabulary Building
Step 2: Vocabulary Exploration
Activity:

- Provide a vocabulary list: enchantment, throughout, heartwarming, stunning, intricate, array.
- Have students discuss the meanings of these words and how they relate to the concept of Christmas markets, encouraging them to use these words in sentences.

Cognitive Stage 2 (Students' perspective)
Step 3: Exploring Festive Decorations
Activity:

- After discussing decorations found in Christmas markets, ask students to imagine beautiful ornaments and twinkling lights.
- Have them draw or find images of festive decorations that capture the holiday spirit.
- Students can share their creations, discussing the colors and designs that resonate with them.

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Process Phase 3: Delicious Holiday Treats
Step 4: Tempting Treats
Activity:

- Discuss the delicious food and beverages found at Christmas markets.
- Prompt students to envision treats such as gingerbread cookies, mulled wine, and roasted chestnuts.
- Ask students to draw or find images of their favorite holiday treats, describing the aromas and flavors that fill the air.

Cognitive Stage 3 (Students' perspective)
Step 5: Reflecting on Community and Traditions
Activity:

- Reflect on the significance of Christmas markets and their role in local traditions.
- Encourage students to predict how wandering through a Christmas market can evoke a sense of community, joy, and holiday spirit.
- Prompt them to write or draw about their favorite moments or memories connected to holiday events or how they celebrate.

Ways of Communication:

- **Interpretive** - Students interpret the significance of Christmas markets and connect them to their personal experiences.
- **Interpersonal** - Students engage in discussions and share reflections with peers throughout the lesson.
- **Presentational** - Students present their drawings, reflections, and ideas about holiday traditions, enhancing their communication skills.

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