

Case Report

Context

The case took place in an ELL classroom in a suburban middle school. The school has 700 students. The case took place in a classroom with the activity on the internet and projected using a SmartBoard™.

Learners

The learners were 15 ELL students. 14 students are Hispanic and 1 Vietnamese student. All but one student have been in the United States for more than five years.

Learning Goal

The teacher wanted the students to gain an understanding of the Underground Railroad. He wanted the students to understand how decisions made had a large effect on the slave's ability to become free.

Technology

The activity was done as a class, requiring the students to speak about decision making. The lesson involved one PC computer, connection to the Internet, a projector and a SmartBoard™. The program was an online website that was a simulation activity.

Facilitating (or impeding) Learning

The activity allowed the students to gain an understanding of the great amount of risk that was taken by slaves to use the Underground Railroad. The students were very concerned about their decisions and thought a great deal about their decisions and did a great job justifying each decision. Through this online simulation, the students had a great understanding of life as a slave in the South, without having to leave the classroom.

KITE Case #

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How Similar

This activity is similar because the teacher used an online program to simulate decision making in a History class. The activity was meant to show how life is different in different periods of times, and how logic must be used in decision making. The teacher was the facilitator and the students did not actually get to interact with the technology themselves.

How Different

In the case study activity, the activity was about World Domination and therefore the students required teams in order to complete the activity. In the observed activity, the students work working together for survival. The remainder of the information was very similar.