**CLIL: Your lesson plan PIOTR PODEMSKI, PALO PIASECZNO, POLAND**

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| Topic/Lesson Title: LITHUANIA: THE AMBER OF THE BALTIC |
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| Aims/Goals or SWBATs (Students will be able to......)  to explain the literal meaning of amber, the gold of the Baltic, and its metaphorical meaning (amber as a gem);  to interpret the meaning of the Hill of Crosses as an expression of Lithuania’s tragic history;  to discuss the landscape and landmarks of Lithuania, as well as the crucial elements of its cultural identity. |
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| Age group: 13-15 years old |
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| Level: B2 |
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| Time (Lesson duration): 45 MINS |
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| Materials:  Definiton of Amber:  <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/amber>  Palanga Amber Museum website:  <https://www.lndm.lt/en/pgm/expositions/>  National Geographic, Lithuania’s Hill of Crosses (1:33 mins):  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7duefb6Khw&ab_channel=NationalGeographic>  National Anthem of Lithuania (1:40 mins):  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SDQQcGlYdYk&ab_channel=IanBerwick> |
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| Lead-in *What’s going to happen here to introduce your students to the topic?* Time 2 mins  We are going to learn about one of the smaller countries of the European Union – its history, its culture, its identity and its unique wealth – amber, also known as the gold of the Baltic. |
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| *What can students predict or do to get started with the lesson?* Time 1 MIN  Does someone know the meaning of the word AMBER? It is sometimes called the gold of the North, or the gold of the Baltic. What could amber be (brainstorming)? |
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| *What vocabulary could teachers focus on? What needs to be pre-taught?* Time 2 MIN  Cambridge Dictionary Definiton of AMBER:  <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/amber>  What do you think is the meaning of LITHUANIA AS THE AMBER OF THE BALTIC metaphorically? (work in pairs) |
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| *What kinds of texts can students* ***listen*** *to or* ***read*** *to deepen their knowledge?* Time 10 MINS  Palanga Amber Museum website – READING EXERCISE:  <https://www.lndm.lt/en/pgm/expositions/>  National Geographic, Lithuania’s Hill of Crosses – READING EXERCISE:  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7duefb6Khw&ab_channel=NationalGeographic>  National Anthem of Lithuania LISTENING/READING EXERCISE:  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SDQQcGlYdYk&ab_channel=IanBerwick> |
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| *What kinds of questions can students answer from the* ***listening*** *or* ***reading****? How many should they answer? What should they notice or analyze?* Time 10 MINS  Palanga Amber Museum website – GAP-FILLING EXERCISE WITH A WORD BANK (APPENDIX 1) |
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| *What will students* ***speak*** *about in pairs or in small groups?* Time 10 MINS  National Geographic, Lithuania’s Hill of Crosses:  1) THE VIDEO SAYS: “THE EXACT ORIGINS OF THE HILL OF CROSSES REMAIN A MYSTERY”. In small groups, discuss how you think this tradition of bringing crosses to the hill might have actually started.    2) THE VIDEO SAYS: “THE HILL OF CROSSES IS A SYMBOL OF UNSHAKABLE FAITH, OF SUFFERING, AND OF HOPE TO LITHUANIA”. Discuss in pairs, what you think this phrase and the whole video reveal about the history and identity of Lithuania? |
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| *What will students* ***write*** *about during class time or for homework?* Time 10 MINS  National Anthem of Lithuania:  From this video, what do we get to know about Lithuania’s landscape and climate? (Give three examples)  Which of the following landmarks: *Gediminas Tower, Hill of Crosses, Hill of* ***Three*** *Crosses, Trakai Island Castle, Palanga Amber Museum, Uzupis Angel Statue, the city of Vilnius skyline*, have appeared in the video? |
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| *What are other follow up (or homework) activities that can be included?*  Having watched the Lithuanian anthem video (with English subtitles), can you say what national values and cultural heritage are Lithuanians proud of? |
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| Other thoughts about this lesson plan:  For those happy to dig deeper into Lithuanian history, it will be a good idea to work with the Lithuanian Hall of Baltimore (USA) website, providing an article on the country’s past, perhaps to be accompanied by a jigsaw reading exercise.  Available at <https://www.lithuanianhall.com/history-of-lithuania> |
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**APPENDIX 1:**

**Permanent Exhibition of Amber**

**"From the Formation of Amber to the Unique Amber Articles of the Present"**

**Fill in the gaps. Use words from the word bank provided.**

**WORD BANK:**

**accounted, acquainted, applied, beginning, Baroque, Bronze, burial, campsites,**

**church, coast, craftsmen, during, examples, excavated, exhibited, exhibits, flora, formation, found, half, jewellery, magnifying, manufactory, mastery, most, Neolithic, plenty, same, scientific, seventh, size, space, surfaces, tools, valued, worldwide.**There are more than 5000 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the exposition of Palanga Amber Museum. The beginning of the exposition contains information about amber\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Diverse morphological forms of amber are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_in the Museum – drops, icicles, trunk and soil amber bundle. More than 70 unique amber pieces \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_not only for their impressive \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(the largest piece so-called ‘Sun Stone’) but also because of their forms, nuances of colour, unique prints on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of ambers are exhibited in the Museum showcases. This is entire \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ material about climate conditions, fauna and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_on Earth during the formation time of amber (the Eocene period).

Palanga Amber Museum has one of the largest and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ scientifically valuable collections of inclusions \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (around 15 000 objects). In the showcases where exhibits could be examined through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ glass are introduced the most marvellous \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of amber inclusions, including one of the world’s rarest exhibits – the Lizard (Lat. Lacertidae).

The unique archaeological artefacts are exhibited in the museum: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ amber articles which were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by archaeologist Dr. Rimutė Rimantienė while excavating and researching the Neolithic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ complex of Šventoji. Juodkrantė Treasure’s (so-called collection of Richard Klebs, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by German company ‘Stantien und Becker’ in the Curonian Lagoon \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_1862 and 1899) copies of the articles are also exhibited. These articles are valuable examples of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ art that reflect the worldview of people of the Baltic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the Neolithic period. In the museum could be seen amber articles of the Stone Age and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Age period, archaeological material of the Baltic Sea coast’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ sites.

Such exhibits as amber-encrusted \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ monstrance from the church of Seda, the 16th – 17th-century amber altar from the old \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Tytuvėnai and other artefacts certify \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of amber processing guild’s craftsmen.

Visitors of the exposition are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with articles from the late 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century that were produced in the amber \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of Palanga (in this period its production \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for a significant part of the Russian amber industrial products). \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ used for amber processing in the 19th century and amber processing loom (made by V. Žilius) of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ period are introduced in the exposition. In the showcases, there are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of amber articles produced by Interwar amber \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of amber manufactory of Palanga.

A lot of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the museum is dedicated to amber craftsmen and professional artists from the second \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the 20th century. In the museum visitors could discover a diverse palette of serial amber jewellery from the sixth, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and eighth decades of the 20th century; also unique amber \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ articles produced by renowned authors of the late 20th century and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the 21st century.

<https://www.lndm.lt/en/pgm/expositions/>