

Meme Lesson Idea

Easily adaptable for all grade levels & supports the VA SOLS for Media Messages. (4.2a,b, 5.3 a,b,c)

Display and observe the RVA Falcon Cam (live each March-mid June).

<https://dwr.virginia.gov/falcon-cam/>

Read a few of the blog posts and the archive to learn more about this pair.

What is a meme?

an image, video, piece of text, etc., typically humorous in nature, that is copied and spread rapidly by internet users, often with slight variations.

Refer to the examples below created for DWR by Mrs. Andrews and Mrs. Bennett's students at Colonial Trail Elementary. Display and discuss what makes them funny? Is it the expression on the falcon's face? The text? Both?



Grades K-2:

Together as a class, create a falcon-based meme.

Grades 3-5:

Students will use technology to create a meme that features a Peregrine Falcon and includes a humorous caption. (I recommend Canva as it's user-friendly, safe, and inclusive.) This DWR website is an excellent resource to learn about Peregrine Falcons: <https://dwr.virginia.gov/wildlife/birds/peregrine-falcon/>

The assignment: Students will create a one page meme using Canva. (Teacher may want to demonstrate depending on ability levels.)

Basic Canva Instructions for new users:

1. create a design (doc)
2. In elements, search for "peregrine falcon"
3. Choose a graphic or photo and click to insert. Student can practice resizing and moving the image. Will it be the background vs an illustration?
4. Type in humorous text, making sure font, color and size are readable
5. Share the project with the teacher, and allow viewing rights.

As students create, teacher will provide feedback and assistance with additional features as needed. (Is the text easily readable? Does it make sense? Is a falcon image included? etc.)

Simple rubric for a classwork grade if desired.

Student created and shared a meme using Canva	Student included a peregrine falcon-related image obtained from Canva	Student wrote and inserted an original, humorous caption	Design is easily readable (text doesn't blend in with background, not too busy, etc)
50 pts	20 pts	20 pts	10 pts

VA Sols

Literacy: K2.1, 1.1a, 3.2f, 4.2a, 4.3ab, 5.3abc