LESSON PLAN: TAPESTRIES

OBJECTIVES:

Social Studies
• Students will be able to describe the purpose of recording history and momentous events

Civics
• Students will be able to interpret different perspectives of the same or similar events.

PROCEDURES:
Students will pick an event of significance to them, their school or their family and depict that event in imagery. Ask students, “How would you depict this event on a tapestry to ensure it was remembered for all time?” and “What images would be most important?”

Tapestry
A tapestry is a heavy cloth with rich, colored designs or scenes usually hung on walls for decoration and sometimes used to cover furniture.

At a time when most people could not read, the images in the tapestries ensured that history and momentous events were recorded. By the 1400s, craftsmen were employed to weave elaborate designs for a growing market. It has been estimated that 15,000 people were employed in the craft by this time. Medieval weavers extracted dyes from plants and insects in a range of less than 20 colors.