

Immigration: Worth the Risk?

4th Grade

The Bronxville School

Spring

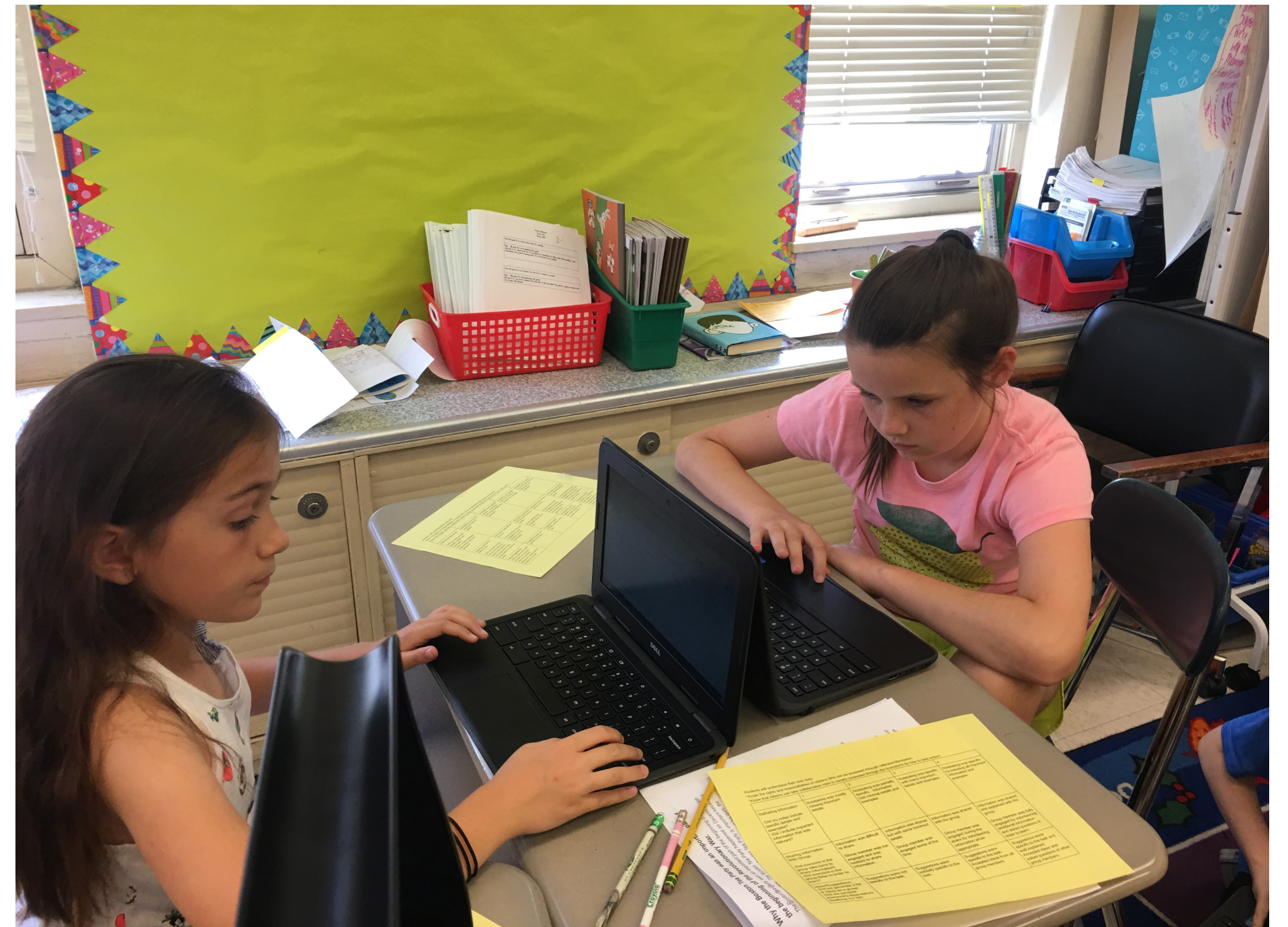
This project is focused on teaching fourth graders about immigration in the early 1900's and present day. Students will research their family's country of origin, journey and experiences upon arrival to America.

Driving Questions

Why did people choose to immigrate to America? Was their decision to immigrate worth the risk? Why or Why not?

Dispositions

Engaged
Citizenship



Assessment

Students will be assessed through a co-construction rubric developed by the students and teachers for collaboration and critical thinking.

Rubric

Student Work

Students will develop diary entries based on a different perspective, participate in a debate to address the driving question, develop a persuasive essay and develop informative presentations for their classmates or teachers to welcome immigrant students.

Samples from Presentations

In this project, students investigate the immigration of different groups based on their own family's country of origin. The research encompasses the issues surrounding that country during the 1800's through the early 1900's. They discover why families chose to immigrate to America during that time period. Additionally, students research the journey to America including the method of transportation, conditions, and what happened when they arrived. Students also learn about the challenges many families encountered, such as finding living arrangements, communicating effectively, and securing employment.

Students also interviewed a present day high school immigrant. This allowed students to generate connections and contrast the experiences from past immigration experiences.

Working collaboratively during the research process, the students developed written pieces of work and participated in debates and discussions to address the driving question.

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Week 1



Topic and entry point will be introduced
Complete a survey to determine each student's family country of origin
Brainstorm a list of questions based on the driving question
Sort questions based on four phases of the immigration journey
Form groups based on countries of origin

Week 2

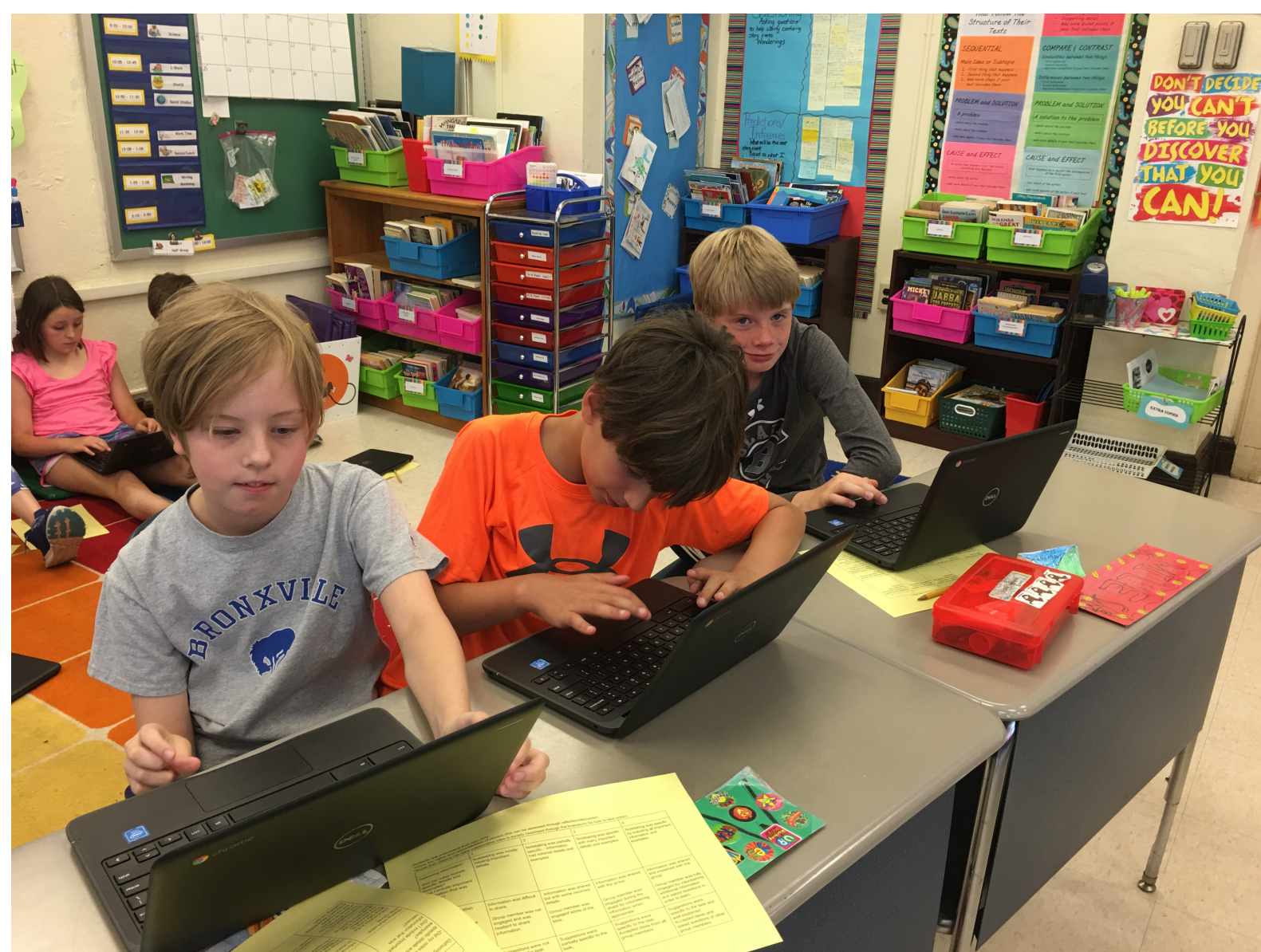
Research in their assigned groups based on their countries
Field trip to Ellis Island to support their research

Week 3

Participate in a Socratic Seminar to discuss two poems about Immigration
Write a diary entry independently from the perspective on an immigrant's experience
Participate in a debate "Was immigrating to America worth the risk?"

Week 4

Write a persuasive essay based on the driving question
Presentation from current day student that has recently immigrated to America
Students will discuss the current issues surrounding immigration
Groups will compare and contrast present day to past day immigration



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