

Across the Curriculum With The 39 Clues

Teachers Lisa Campbell and Mike Bentz (pictured, left, with Clues author Peter Lerangis) from Skyline School in Solana Beach, CA, shared with us how they use this hit series to teach in core areas. Try these ideas with your classroom's top clue hunters!



1 Research Famous Figures
Invite students to research the different historical figures (there is one in each book), such as Benjamin Franklin, Amelia Earhart, and the Romanovs. You will find that students want to do the research to further their quest for the 39 clues!

2 Zero in on Dan and Amy
For geography practice, have students keep track of main characters Dan and Amy's travels by filling in locations of countries and cities they visit across the globe. Assign students locations to research, and have them present their findings. foreign currencies and can practice converting money. For a lesson in time, have students work with problems involving the various time zones Dan and Amy travel to.

4 39 Clues Wiki
Create a wiki for students to use as a place to record their findings from online clues and present their research on historical events and figures. Open the discussion to the whole class by having students participate in a password-protected blog, monitored by you. They can post their own theories, comment on their peers' predictions, and ask questions.

5 Uncover Characters and Clues
Use a bulletin board to make a giant graphic organizer. To follow the books' characters, clues, and locations, have students make a picture card for each one, with names, traits, and images. Set aside time in class for students to update the organizer with the solutions they find to the different online cards (the39clues.com).

6 Create a Reference Book Conduct a research project with the online cards (the39clues.com), as many refer to actual historical events (the sinking of the *Titanic*, the Salem witch trials, etc.). Create a research page for each card

3 Design a Math Travel Game
Let students join Dan and Amy on their travels! Issue pretend passports, checking accounts, and credit cards to fund students' hunts, and ask that they keep track of expenses for food, lodging, and transportation. Students will learn about that captures significant dates, people, locations, and historical influences. These pages can then become a reference book for students to use in the hunt for clues.

7 Write: What I Would Do
Present students with this writing prompt: Given the choice, would you take the million dollars or join the hunt for the 39 clues in an attempt to become the most powerful person in the world? Allow students to write for ten minutes, then invite them to share their decisions and reasons why.

8 Host a School-Wide Celebration
Incorporate the 39 Clues books in a school-wide "Cahill Day" to promote literacy. Invite students to dress as 39 Clues characters or in their "branch" colors (after taking the online quiz). You can also hold a trivia contest and invite the winners to an exclusive Cahill luncheon. At Lisa and Mike's school, Peter Lerangis (author of the third book in the series) stopped by to join in the excitement!

Want more 39 Clues? Visit *The 39 Clues Educator Network*, which includes book-by-book guides, author videos of the month, activities, and a place for teachers to share ideas. Join the network at www.scholastic.com/teachthe39clues.