**Lionel Messi Lesson Plan**

*Nivel Cuatro: Los deportes*

**Day ONE:**

1. Intro to Lionel Messi slides (Slides 1-8)
2. Highlight geography of Spanish-speaking world (location of Argentina in relation to USA, Slides 2-3)
3. Cartoon video clip: The Journey of Lionel Messi – The Dr. Binocs Show (5:55 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OgCEPsmErRU>

Before watching the clip, ask students to consider these essential questions (Slide 11):

* *What was Messi like as a child?*
* *What obstacles/challenges did Messi face?*
* *What difficult decision did Messi and his family have to make for Messi’s future?*

1. Highlight geography of Spanish-speaking world (location of Spain in relation to Argentina, Slides 9-10)
2. Use graphic organizer to model notetaking as a class. Take notes on Messi’s Childhood. Remind students that notes can be important words or phrases. They do not need to write complete sentences. Do not copy this graphic organizer back-to-back. Then students can use the back side if they run out of circles and would like to add more information to that section.

**Day TWO:**

1. Quick Review: Ask students what they know about Lionel Messi.
2. Cartoon video clip: The Story of Lionel Messi (6:51 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OgCEPsmErRU>

Before watching the clip, ask students to consider these essential questions (Slide 12):

* *Where did Messi play (for what team) for most of his career?*
* *What is Messi’s soccer-playing style?*
* *What accomplishments did Messi achieve in his career?*
* *Where is Messi playing now?*

1. Use graphic organizer to model notetaking. First, do we have anything to add about Messi’s Childhood? Then, take notes on Messi, the Soccer Player.

**Day THREE:**

1. Quick Review: Ask students for a few facts about Lionel Messi.
2. Video clip: Lionel Messi Career Highlights

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ht1wQJTpNAA>

Watch a few minutes of this highlight reel. Have students watch for Messi’s quick footwork and his ability to use his speed and smaller size to slip between his opponents. Also, watch for Messi’s ability to curve his goals so it looks like ball is going to miss the goal but then curves in at the last moment.

1. Partner Questions. With a partner, discuss these two final essential questions (Slide 13):

* *How will Messi be remembered throughout history?*
* *Besides having amazing soccer skills, how is Lionel Messi an inspiration to others?*

1. Use graphic organizer to model notetaking. Take notes on Messi and His Legacy.

**Day FOUR:**

1. Quick Review: Ask students for a few facts about Lionel Messi.
2. Introduce Writing Assignment. Students will use their notes to help them complete the writing assignment. Make cartoon videos available on Google Classroom so students can return to the videos as necessary. Younger students (elementary) can complete the simplified writing assignment. Older students (middle school) should complete the essay with introduction and conclusion.

**Priority Standards for this Writing Assignment (use one or both):**

* 1. *Relating Cultural Practices to Perspectives: Learners use the language to investigate, explain, and reflect on the relationship between the practices and perspectives of the cultures studied.*
  2. *Relating Cultural Products to Perspectives: Learners use the language to investigate, explain, and reflect on the relationship between the products and perspectives of the cultures.*

**Differentiation of Lionel Messi Lesson Plan**

* This lesson plan can be used as written for grades 3-8. Younger students will need more direct instruction with the notetaking process, including teacher modeling. Use the writing assignment best designed for students’ ages and abilities.
* Heritage speakers may be able to complete the writing assignment in Spanish.
* Simplify and shorten this lesson to meet the needs of students in grades K-2. Watch the first cartoon video clip and a few minutes of the highlights reel. Help students develop geographical knowledge of world, comparing where we live with where Messi is from (Argentina) and where he moved to play for most of his career (Spain). If possible, bring in flags of Argentina and Spain. Talk about colors in Spanish using flags. Use one or more of the Messi or Argentine flag coloring sheets (students often like to choose between multiple options).

Ask your school if they will purchase a few books about Lionel Messi for the school library! A few suggestions include:

**Lionel Messi: Hard Work Makes a Star** (by Noah Press, 2023)

**Lionel Messi: The Boy Who Dreamed of Being a Champion: An Argentinian Boy’s Tale of Grit, Talent, and Triumph** (by Michael Langdon, 2023)

**Amazing Stories of Lionel Messi: Decoding Greatness for Young Readers** (by Jennifer L. Trace and Leo M. Landon, 2023)

**Lionel Messi: A Kid’s Book about Working Hard for Your Dream** (by Mary Nhin, 2023)