Pre-1500
Ashfall

activities

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1. **ORAL OR WRITTEN PRESENTATION**
   Visiting Ashfall

2. **RESEARCH & WRITING**
   National Geographic

3. **WRITING**
   Dr. Voorhies Biography

- Resources

- Nebraska Department of Education
- Content Area Standards A1
activity

Oral or Written Presentation

Have students read the Ashfall section in the Pre-1500 timeline of Nebraska Studies.

http://nebraskastudies.org/pre-1500/ashfall/

Also have students view Ashfall's website:

http://ashfall.unl.edu

Have students imagine that they are the tour guides for their classmates on a trip to the Ashfall Fossil Beds State Historical Park. They should explain (in a written and/or oral format) what they will see and why it is important. In your classroom, have students post drawings they have created and/or images from this site or other sources of some of the animals that died at Ashfall.

Nebraska Department of Education Content Area Standards

Social Studies Standards: SS 4.3.3; SS 4.4.3 | SS 8.3.3; SS 8.4.3

Language Arts Standards: LA 4.1.5 Vocabulary; LA 4.1.6 Comprehension; LA 4.4.1 Information Fluency | LA 8.3.1 Speaking; LA 8.4.1 Information Fluency

Science: SC 5.1.1; SC 5.1.2 | SC 8.1.1; SC 8.1.2
activity
Research & Writing

Have students search the library or an online database for the following issue of National Geographic magazine:

National Geographic, Vol. 1, No. 1, January 1981

Have them read the article, "Pompeii of Prehistoric Animals in Nebraska," on pages 66-75. Then have students write a summary of what they consider the three most important points discussed by Dr. Michael Voorhies.

Nebraska Department of Education Content Area Standards

Social Studies Standards: SS 4.4.4; SS 4.4.5 | SS 8.4.4; SS 8.4.5

Language Arts Standards: LA 4.1.5 Vocabulary; LA 4.1.6 Comprehension | LA 8.1.6 Comprehension; LA 8.2.2 Writing Modes

Science: SC 5.1.2; SC 5.3.3 | SC 8.1.2; SC 8.3.1
Dr. Voorhies Biography

activity
Writing

Have students read the Dr. Michael Voorhies' Discovery page in the Ashfall section in the Pre-1500 timeline of Nebraska Studies. They may also explore the Mike Voorhies page on NET's Paleosleuths site.

http://nebraskastudies.org/pre-1500/ashfall/michael-voorhies-discovery/

http://www.paleosleuths.org/mike_voorhies.html

Then have them write a biographic article about Dr. Michael Voorhies, paleontologist at the University of Nebraska State Museum. Students may use information from the pages above, including the video stories, or use the University of Nebraska State Museum Ashfall site.

http://ashfall.unl.edu

Nebraska Department of Education Content Area Standards

Social Studies Standards: SS 8.4.5

Language Arts Standards: LA 4.1.6 Comprehension; LA 4.2.1 Writing Process; LA 4.4.1 Information Fluency | LA 8.1.6 Comprehension; LA 8.2.1 Writing Process; LA 8.4.1 Information Fluency

Science: SC 5.1.1; SC 5.1.2 | SC 8.1.1; SC 8.1.2
Internet Resources

Ashfall, University of Nebraska State Museum
http://ashfall.unl.edu/

Nebraska Department of Education Academic Standards
https://www.education.ne.gov/contentareastandards/

Nebraska Department of Education Social Studies and History Standards
https://tinyurl.com/ycuxo8sh

National Archives
http://www.archives.gov/index.html

Library of Congress Learning Page Lesson Plans
http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu/lessons/index.html

Six Trait Writing: Ideas, Organization, Voice, Sentence Fluency, Word Choice, and Conventions
https://www.edinaschools.org/Page/2343
Nebraska Department of Education
Content Area Standards

Social Studies Standards

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SS 4.3.3 Students will identify natural processes in the physical world.

SS 4.4.3 Students will describe and explain multiple perspectives of historical events.

SS 4.4.4 Students will analyze past and current events, issues, and problems.

SS 4.4.5 Students will develop historical research skills.

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SS 8.3.3 Students will investigate how natural processes interact to create and change the natural environment.

SS 8.4.3 (US) Students will analyze and interpret historical and current events from multiple perspectives.

SS 8.4.4 (US) Students will identify causes of past and current events, issues, and problems.

SS 8.4.5 Students will develop historical research skills.
Language Arts Standards

LA 4.1.5 Vocabulary: Students will build and use conversational, academic, and content-specific grade-level vocabulary.

LA 4.1.6 Comprehension: Students will construct meaning by using prior knowledge and text information while reading grade-level literary and informational text.

LA 4.2.1 Writing Process: Students will apply the writing process to plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish writing using correct spelling, grammar, punctuation, and other conventions of standard English appropriate for grade-level.

LA 4.4.1 Information Fluency: Students will evaluate, create, and communicate information in a variety of media and formats (textual, visual, and digital).

LA 8.1.6 Comprehension: Students will construct meaning by applying prior knowledge, using text information, and monitoring comprehension while reading increasingly complex grade-level literary and informational text.

LA 8.2.1 Writing Process: Students will apply the writing process to plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish writing using correct spelling, grammar, punctuation, and other conventions of standard English appropriate for grade-level.

LA 8.2.2 Writing Modes: Students will write in multiple modes for a variety of purposes and audiences across disciplines.

LA 8.3.1 Speaking: Students will develop, apply, and refine speaking skills and strategies to communicate key ideas in a variety of situations.

LA 8.4.1 Information Fluency: Students will evaluate, create, and communicate information in a variety of media and formats (textual, visual, and digital).
Science Standards

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SC 8.1.1 Students will design and conduct investigations that will lead to descriptions of relationships between evidence and explanations.

SC 8.1.2 Students will apply the nature of science to their own investigations.

SC 8.3.1 Students will investigate and describe the structure and function of living organisms.
MA 8.4.1 Representations: Students will create displays that represent data.