***Welcome to Belarus***

Задачи для учащихся: способствовать развитию внимания, памяти, воображения, мышления, смекалки; способствовать формированию интереса и положительного отношения к языку; формирование устойчивой мотивации к изучению английского языка

Методы: коммуникативный, интерактивный, групповой

Оборудование: устройство для показа слайдов (компьютер, ноутбук)

1 - Hi, guys!

2 - Hi, glad to see you all! How is it going?

3 - Great! It’s a real pleasure to meet you all, in spite of the distances.

4 - Don’t you forget, that this June we are going to travel somewhere?

1- Sure not! But what about the borders?

2 - Don’t worry! I can assure you that in June all borders will be open. Let us decide where to go.

3 - What about Egypt?

4 - It’s too hot there in June

1 - Well. May be Europe

2 - Fine. But Europe is big! Where exactly?

3 - You know, guys, there is one place that is worth to be visited. I’m sending you a website link.

(123) We’ve got it!

3 - Watch it and let’s connect later.

(123) Deal

**R 1: Hello everybody! Welcome on travel guide “Heads and Tails”! Glad to see you at our program! Today we are here, in Belarus!**

**R1: Belarus is a wonderful country of great past, a hospitable land of friendly people, a small part of Europe, which boasts calm and lovely scenery of great natural beauty. Here you can admire the striking beauty of stone palaces, temples and ancient towns. You will feel the historical and cultural heritage of the land where the past and the present exist side by side.**

**R1: As we want to know about this country as more as possible and help our spectators to choose the best place to visit while travelling, we have invited a lot of experts to our studio. And now let’s find out some essential facts about Belarus.**

**Pupil1**

***Figures and facts about Belarus***

**Territory** – 207,600 sq. km. **Location** – eastern part of Europe

**Borders** – with Poland, Lithuania, Russia, Ukraine **Population** – 10 mln. people

**Capital** – Minsk, about 2 10 mln. people  **Nationalities** –Belarusian (81.2%) there live Russians, Poles, Ukrainians, Jews, and a small number of other nationalities.

**Languages** – Belarusian and Russian **Currency** – the Belarusian rouble

**National symbols** Stork Bison Cornflower

**Pupil 2**

***The first symbol of Belarus is a stork.***

A stork lives in the heart of every Belarusian. Many popular beliefs, signs and traditions are connected with these beautiful birds. The majority of inhabitants wish to have a nest on his roof. They say that storks bring spring, so people connect only good thoughts with these birds. Big and wide wings of the storks are like a protection from everything harmful and bad.

**Pupil 3**

***The most famous symbol of Belarus is a bison.***

It is the prehistoric animal, which lives only in Belarus. This is the biggest animal, living in the forests of this country. Today the bison is included in the Red List of Belarus, and also Red Lists of neighboring countries - Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Ukraine. It is the symbol of power and force. You can see its images very often. A bison is a pride of the country.

**Pupil 4**

***Each country has its national plant or national flower.*** It partly reflects its culture and tells about the history of the country, presenting it to the world. In Belarus it is a cornflower – the third national symbol. It is called the Homeland flower, a symbol of blue-eyed Belarus. This flower means the strengths of the soul of the Belarusians, its purity and nobleness.

**R 1: Thanks a lot for such interesting information. So it is time to high light 10 best places to visit in Belarus. And on the top of the list there is Bialowieza Forest National Park. I am giving the floor to our expert**

**1.Bialowieza Forest National Park**

Did you know that the largest and oldest forest in Europe is situated in Belarus, on the border with Poland? It is called Bialowieza Forest National Park, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and it is a great place to visit in Belarus. If you visit Brest (which I strongly recommend you doing), you can easily get to the Bialowieza Forest situated less than 100 km away from it. There, you can rent and ride a bicycle through one of the numerous bike paths in the national park, go to one of nature and local lore museums, visit Father Frost or simply walk along the forest alleys enjoying the calmness and fresh air. You can even stay in a house in the center of Bialowieza Forest.

R2: Thank you ever so much. And we are going further and ask expert to introduce Braslav lake group to us.

**2.Braslav Lake Group**

Braslav lakes are one of the favorite places to visit in Belarus among locals. These lakes are also one of the Belarusian national parks.The lake group includes dozens of small and big lakes, some have a very well-developed infrastructure around them, but some are just hidden in the forest.

**R1: Many thanks! And now here we go, the next point is (to my mind) the most mysterious part of the country. Can you guess what it is? Of course! We are going to talk about castles.**

**3.Medieval Mir Castle**

The historical paradox is that Belarusian is one of the most peace-loving nations in the world. Yet, due to its geographical position Belarus has always been the battle arena where stronger neighbors clashed. Ancient castles and palaces remind us about the stormy past of Belarus. Some of them are being actively restored – for instance, the castle of Mir – a real miracle made of red bricks and looking onto an ancient pond where, as the legends say, uncountable treasures wait to be recovered. The castle is a fifteenth-century Gothic-style building with a rich history, and as one of the country's most popular destinations.

But, perhaps, the strongest impression would be left by the castles and palaces that have not been touched by restorers: Khrevo, Golshany, Smoliany, Ruzhany

**R2: On the fourth position of our list there is Brest Hero Fortress. And our next expert is ready to introduce it to us**

**4. Brest Hero-Fortress**

Brest fortress, which is situated close to the city of Brest, on the south-west of Belarus, is famous for its heroic defense against German invaders during World War II. As you might know, the whole of Poland was conquered in just 2 weeks, while the Brest fortress alone could restrain constant attacks of Germans for 1 month.On the walls of the fortress, you can still find the famous inscriptions of the soldiers. The most famous of them is “I’m dying, but I’m not giving up. Goodbye, Motherland!”

**R1: It was so touching. And now in honour of all the defenders of Belarus a minute of silence. And we have already reached the fifth place of the list. Any ideas? Exactly! Minsk.**

**5.Minsk the capital of Belarus**

Minsk, the capital of Belarus, is the most visited place in the country. It is a big city with almost 2 million people, but you don’t feel the business, dirt, and noise of a big city. The city is very convenient for tourists, as most of the main attractions of Minsk are located close to each other, in the city center. Just walk around the city center and you will easily find them all.

**R1: Now let’s watch and listen to the American tourist, who visited Minsk. While listening try to remember all adjectives he uses to describe. Your attention on the screen, please.**

**(wide boulevards, beautiful parks, expensive landscapes, crazy history, Minsk is an extreme place, public places accessible, nice places, modern place)**

**R2: Good job! You are very attentive listeners! And now it is time to know some facts about Grodno.**

**6.Grodno full of architectural sights**

Grodno is the city that preserved the most of architectural sights in the country. That is why it is a great place to visit in Belarus. You should go to Zamkovaya street to see its two castles, the new and the old one. The city is also full of beautiful churches of different religions. Belarus is a country, which is very tolerant of such diversity.

Go to the Grodno Regional Drama Theater, look at this unusual structure and try to think of what it is similar to. Another place I recommend visiting in Grodno is the Old Pharmacy Museum having a collection of old chemist’s utensils and equipment.

**R1: Great! Believe it or not, but if you dream about Maldives, in Belarus you will have such an opportunity! Still doubt? Let us listen to the expert**

**7. “Belarusian Maldives”**

Another great attraction in Belarus that was just recently found, are the ‘Belarusian Maldives’, chalk quarries with pure water and cliffs with white sand. There are several places, where you can view the ‘Belarusian Maldives’, the most famous is situated close to the Volkovysk town.

Today, the chalk quarries have limited access, because the government decided to build good infrastructure around them for more safety. Hopefully, in a few months, we will be able to visit the beautiful ‘Belarusian Maldives’ and stay in a tent for a night in such a wonderful place.

**R2: On the eighth and on the ninth positions respectively there are Geographical Center Of Europe and Silichi Ski Resort.**

**8. Geographical Center of Europe**

You have never been to the center of Europe? You have to!

You can visit it in Belarus, in the city of Polotsk, the oldest city on the territory of Belarus with over 1000 years of history. Here, you can find the monument of the center of Europe and get a certificate that you’ve been there.

**9. Silichi Ski Resort**

One of the favorite things to do in Belarus among tourists is visiting one of the country’s ski resorts. Despite the fact that Belarus doesn’t have high mountains, there are numerous artificial hills with good infrastructure and low prices. Silichi Ski Resort is one of them. It has ski slopes of all the levels of complexity, so you will definitely find the one, which suits you the most, or ask an experienced instructor to teach you skiing.

**R1: And here we come to the last position of the list of ten best places to visit in Belarus. Zabrodie Village**

**10.Zabrodie Village**

The last place to visit in Belarus that we will tell you is Zabrodie village, which still remembers the events of the First World War. Here, you can observe the collection from this war, see and even ride one of the old timers and enjoy the atmosphere of the rural life.

**R2: So travelling about Belarus you will enjoy the discovery of the country in every season of the year. This marvelous land is ready to meet you in flowery spring and sunny summer, in golden autumn and snowy winter. We invite you to explore the country, and wish you all the best in search of new spots. And each spot, believe me, is distinctive, unique and attractive.**

**Song**

1-Hello, guys! So, how is your impression?

2-Wow! It’s cool!

3- I am impressed!

1- Great! So, what is our decision?

4-Well, Steve, book the tickets!