

Teaching American History

Lesson Plan Template

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Subject: N.C. History

Grade Level: 8th

Class Time Required: 2 days

Lesson Title: North Carolina lighthouses

Essential Question:

Do our students understand the importance of lighthouses along our coast? Being that we have a coastal region known as the "Graveyard of the Atlantic", our historic lighthouses still act as guardians for mariners.

Brief Description of Lesson:

Students will be introduced to the various lighthouses that are located along our state's coastline. They will be expected to learn select facts about each of the 8 lighthouses, their location and the unique geographic features of our state's coastal region that lead to their construction.

Lesson Plan Objectives:

Access the Table of Contents for the North Carolina Social Studies Curriculum at:

<http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/curriculum/socialstudies/scos/>

State Competency Goals (# and description)

Due to the fact that the lighthouses were built over the course of 2 centuries, the lesson plan, in a sense, is covered by "an umbrella" of goals #1-#7

Teacher Designed Objectives (At the end of this lesson students should be able to...)

The student will be able to locate on a map each lighthouse, name the particular lighthouse, include the year built and height. Also, in a paragraph the student will explain why our coast has the number of lighthouses it does, with an expectation that this will include information about our unique geographic coastline.

Materials Needed: (Print and Non-Print)

Primary Sources: A copy of the 1st session of the 2nd Congress of the United States in which an act is introduced for construction of a lighthouse on Bald Head Island approved by George Washington, April 2nd, 1792.

Book: Chronicles of The Cape Fear River 1660-1916, James Sprunt author.

Secondary Sources: Book: Cap'n Charlie and Lights of the Lower Cape Fear.

Technology: Website- www.carolinalights.com . Reserve a computer lab.

Suggested Teaching Strategies:

Anticipatory Set (Jump-Starter Activity)

Ask the students, on a blank sheet of paper, to name as many N.C. lighthouses as they can. Then, to begin discussion, call on students to give their responses noting locations on a map of N.C. (Roll-up classroom map or project on LCD and if able, use mimeo-pads to circle the location, if you have those within your classroom).

Teacher led instruction

After the student input from the “jump-start”, indicate where the various lighthouses are located. Inform students that they will be going to the comp. Lab to research N.C. Lighthouses. They are required, once at the website, to list the name, year built, location and 3 interesting facts about each lighthouse.

Guided Practice

At the comp. lab students will go to the following website- www.carolinalights.com and from that point gather their information. The students will compile the information asked for by the teacher and use that to select one lighthouse for a presentation for the class.

Independent Practice

After selecting one lighthouse from their research students will present in front of the class, a short informative presentation about their choice. Dioramas, drawings.....etc. are to be encouraged.

Closure

The presentations will begin the closure of this lesson. Allow at least 1.5 days for the intro., lab-time. Presentation day should allow be 2 days after their information is gathered. Start on Monday, rollover with this on Tuesday and have presentations Thursday and Friday. Test after presentations are done.

Evaluation of Student Comprehension:

Provide a plan to assess student progress toward meeting the objective(s) of the lesson.

A test will be given on the location and the year each lighthouse was built. Any outline map of coastal N.C. could be used for this.

Also, presentation of their selected lighthouse will be graded using a rubric that meets the following:

Lighthouse display: 50%

Relationship of the lighthouse's construction and geographic area: 25%

3 facts and pointing out the location on a map, its location: 25%

Assessment of the Lesson:

This is for teachers using the plan to reflect on what worked and what needs modification.

Supplemental Information for Teachers:

Internet Resources:

For each source provide...

Web address: www.carolinalights.com

Author and Title: Private organization

Brief synopsis of the source: Great informative site! Provides all the material your students need!

Attachments: