

Teaching American History

Lesson Plan Template

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Subject: Social Studies- Lewis and Clark Explorations
Grade Level: 4-5
Class Time Required: 60 min
Lesson Title: Westward expansion with Lewis and Clark

Essential Question:

What did Lewis and Clark contribute to the westward expansion of the United States?

Brief Description of Lesson:

Students will be introduced to westward expansion of the United States through the explorations of Lewis and Clark. They will read selected parts of their Social Studies text book and the social studies nonfiction book In Their Own Words: Lewis and Clark by George Sullivan and compare them to primary documents. Students will continue to read the nonfiction book Lewis and Clark in literature circle groups for the remainder of the week.

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)

4.02 Explain when, where, why, and how groups of people settled in different regions of the United States.

4.03 Describe the contributions of people of diverse cultures throughout the history of the United States

.4.07 Compare and contrast changes in rural and urban settlement patterns in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and selected countries of Central America.

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

Identify primary sources and secondary sources

Explain the contributions of Lewis and Clark in US westward expansion

Materials Needed: (Print and Non-Print)

Primary Sources:

Timeline of Lewis and Clark Expedition, Journal entries, maps

Secondary Sources:

A Journey through North America textbook pages 162-164

In Their Own Words: Lewis and Clark by George Sullivan

Technology: Discovery Education Video, computer

Suggested Teaching Strategies:

Anticipatory Set (Jump-Starter Activity)

Have students imagine that the President of the United States has chosen them to explore a new galaxy. Discuss what you would need, who you would take with you, and how you would log your findings from your discoveries.

Teacher led instruction

Teacher will explain that class will use primary sources and secondary sources to learn about the westward expansion of the United States. We will begin by discussing Lewis and Clark's contribution. Teacher will explain the differences between primary sources and secondary sources and model them by giving the students the book on Lewis and Clark, a copy of a map, and a journal entry. We will then discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using each type of source. (The book includes pictures, maps and journal entries- primary sources- and explains how they add value to the learning experience.)

Guided Practice

We will read the section of chapter 7 lesson 2 on Lewis and Clark's expedition as a class and answer comprehension and analysis questions on the information.

Independent Practice

Students will take

Stations:

Using a timeline describing the places and dates of the expedition, Students will label the activities of Lewis and Clark on a map.

Timeline:

http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest/events/1800_1820.htm

If you had the opportunity to explore any part to the world, where would you go and why? Write about it on antiqued journal paper.

Analyze a journal entry from the Lewis and Clark expedition and rewrite it in your own words from your point of view.

Students will follow the journey of Lewis and Clark: Into the Unknown on PBS website by reading the <http://www.pbs.org/lewisandclark/into/index.html>

Watch a video on Lewis and Clark from discovery education

Closure

Students will be given 2 exit questions to answer about the lesson. What makes primary sources and secondary sources different? How did Lewis and Clark contribute to the growth of United States in the early 1800s?

Evaluation of Student Comprehension:

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

The answers from the exit (closure) questions will be used as an informal assessment to determine whether the students understand the lesson objectives. After completing the reading of the book Lewis and Clark by George Sullivan, the students will complete a project that illustrates what would be different about the United States if Lewis and Clark had not gone to explore the land from the Louisiana Purchase when they did. It may be in the form of a skit, a paper, a multimedia presentation, or oral presentation.

Assessment of the Lesson:

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

Based on the answers to their exit (closure) questions, the teacher will determine whether the lesson was effectively understood. If students do not understand the content, the teacher will create a review that gives more detailed explanations. The teacher will observe the class while working on the station activities to determine if the activities are completed correctly and allowing for discussion between students or if they are hard to understand and cause confusion and frustration. If they are frustrated the teacher will develop activities on an easier level or review the gaps in learning that have caused misunderstandings in the content.

Supplemental Information for Teachers:

Internet Resources:

National Geographic

Lewis and Clark Maps of the expedition

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/lewisandclark/map.html>

Lewis and Clark.com

Time line

<http://www.lewisandclark1806.com/timeline.htm>

PBS

Lewis and Clark Time line of Discovery

http://www.pbs.org/lewisandclark/archive/idx_time.html

National Geographic

Lewis and Clark interactive journey

http://www.nationalgeographic.com/lewisandclark/journey_intro.html

PBS: Lewis and Clark- Into the Unknown

This website allows students to follow the Journey of Lewis and Clark and incorporates primary sources (journal entries) into this secondary source.

<http://www.pbs.org/lewisandclark/into/index.html>

PBS: Events of the West

This website shows a timeline of Lewis and Clark's expedition

http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest/events/1800_1820.htm

Biography of William Clark- PBS site

http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest/people/a_c/clark.htm

Biography of Meriwether Lewis- PBS site

http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest/people/i_r/lewis.htm

Attachments: