

Lesson Title: An Illustrated Guide to the Late 1800's
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11th grade, American History,
July 2005

Teaching Traditional American History Program

Funded by U.S. Department of Education

Mike Lair, Project Director

<http://www.chillhistoryproject.com/>

Lesson Overview: This project is a dictionary containing important people, places, terms, and things from the late 1800's. Students will research the time period using available resources and construct an alphabetized booklet covering one of six different topics pertaining to the time period.

Objectives: After completing this lesson the student will be able to:

- *develop a research plan and identify appropriate resources for investigation.

- *identify important people, places, terms, and things of the time period.

- * relate the significant and inter-relatedness of these.

Materials: For their research students will need access to a wide variety of history resources: text books, internet, encyclopedias, biographical dictionaries. Commonly used items are word processor, poster board, markers, scissors, glue, magazines for cutting out photos, construction paper.

Class Time: I like to assign this project and make it due in two weeks. We then work on it for about 15-20 minutes at a time at the end of several class periods. I also schedule two days for computer lab work. This format works well with block scheduling.

Teacher Input: At the beginning of the class period, the instructor should give an overview of this project. Handouts explaining the project should be distributed.

- Activities:**
1. We will discuss the students' existing knowledge about the time period by brainstorming as a group.
 2. We will conduct research both in the classroom using available books and in the library/computer laboratories.
 3. We will discuss each dictionary as a class and display some in the hallways throughout the school for others to enjoy.

Closure: After each presentation, the class will discuss each dictionary.

Assessment: This project is worth a total of 100 points. I grade taking neatness, grammar, punctuation, and content into consideration. These scores are added for a total out of 100. I list the corresponding percentage and letter grade. I also include comments. See scoring guide.

References: These will vary depending on what is available to you.

An Illustrated Guide to the Late 1800's

Project Topics

1. War in the West-End of a Lifestyle (pgs. 162-176)
2. Boom Time- Cattle and Mining (pgs. 177-187)
3. Innovations (pgs. 192-200)
4. Business and Labor (pgs. 201-215)
5. American Life (pgs. 220-239)
6. Dirty Politics (pgs. 246-265)

Directions

1. Pick which of the above topics you want your guide to cover.
2. Read the pages listed on your topic in your textbook.
3. Make a list of important people, places, events, terms, things from your reading.
4. Write brief, but detailed descriptions or definitions for each.
5. Alphabetize these entries and organize them into a booklet format.
6. Illustrations are a plus.

Scoring Guide

This guide is worth 100 points. These points will be broken down in the following manner:

Content	70 points
Neatness/Grammar/Punctuation	20 points
Creativity	10 points