

Thomas Jefferson
Lesson Design by: Sondra Ussary
Amazonia Elementary
4th Grade, Social Studies
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Teaching American History Program
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Mike Lair, Project Director
<http://www.chillihistoryproject.com/>

Lesson Overview:

Students explore an online resource to learn about Thomas Jefferson, the third president of the United States and create an Impress presentation.

Essential Question:

What contributions did Thomas Jefferson make to the United States and the world?

Objectives:

After completing this lesson the student will be able to:

- MO GLE 2aB - Read a short biography of Thomas Jefferson. Take notes, listing Jefferson's contributions to the founding, governing and expansion of the United States on a chart.
- MO GLE 2aA - Describe the contributions of Thomas Jefferson. Sequence and describe the importance of Louisiana Purchase, Lewis and Clark Expedition.

Assessment:

Each pair will be responsible for creating an Impress (power point) presentation to orally present. Each presentation will include at least 10 slides that contain information about Thomas Jefferson's personal or professional life. After previewing the internet sites, each pair will decide on what period of Jefferson's life or topic they want to research. Rubric Attached.

Materials:

Internet access
Computer
Paper for note taking
pencil

Class time:

- 3 – 50 minute periods
- Day one for research and recording
- Two days for Impress presentation creation

Teacher Input: To begin the lesson the teacher needs to pull up the following websites. Locate and explore these sites so that you, as the teacher, are familiar with the content.

<http://www.monticello.org/education/plans/index.html>

<http://www.monticello.org/education/plans/index.html>

<http://www.monticello.org/education/plans/hunt.html>

<http://odur.let.rug.nl/~usa/P/tj3/writings/brf/jeflxx.htm>

<http://www.monticello.org/>

Direct the students to these sites. Explain how to navigate through the site then let them explore.

Activities:

- During this lesson students will use technology, cooperative learning

Questions for review:

Discuss with the class some of these ideas and help students recall others from the text by asking questions such as: "What role did Thomas Jefferson play in the development of the Declaration of Independence?" (He wrote it.) "What were some of Jefferson's accomplishments as president?" (He made the Louisiana Purchase, thereby doubling the size of the United States; and he authorized the

Lewis and Clark Expedition.) "Where was Jefferson when the Constitutional Convention of 1787 was held?" (He was in France.) "What inventions did Jefferson create?" "How did Jefferson want to be remembered?"

Closure:

Draw into the discussion any other information students may have about Jefferson and his times. Talk about Jefferson's home, Monticello, and ask, "What might a day in the life of Mr. Jefferson at Monticello have been like?"

Extension:

Plan with other teachers to let students present their Impress presentations.

<http://www.monticello.org/education/plans/hunt.html>

References:

<http://www.monticello.org/education/plans/index.html>

<http://www.monticello.org/education/plans/hunt.html>

<http://odur.let.rug.nl/~usa/P/tj3/writings/brf/jeflxx.htm>

<http://www.monticello.org/>

Impress Presentation : Thomas Jefferson

Teacher Name: **Ms. Ussary**

Student Name: _____

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Neatness	The overall appearance of the presentation is pleasing.	The overall appearance of the presentation is somewhat pleasing.	The presentation is relatively neat.	The presentation was not neat.
Content/Facts	Facts were accurate for all events reported in the presentation.	Facts were accurate for almost all events reported on the presentation .	Facts were accurate for most (~75%) of the events reported on the presentation.	Facts were often inaccurate for events reported on the presentation.
Readability	The overall appearance of the presentation is pleasing and easy to read.	The overall appearance of the presentation is somewhat pleasing and easy to read.	The presentation is relatively readable.	The presentation is difficult to read.
Title	The presentation has a creative title that accurately describes the material and is easy to locate.	The presentation has an effective title that accurately describes the material and is easy to locate.	The presentation has a title that is easy to locate.	The title is missing or difficult to locate.
Presentation	The presentation was excellent. Speaker was well prepared and spoke clearly.	The presentation was good. Speaker was prepared and made few mistakes.	The presentation was ok. Speaker was not well prepared w/ some mistakes.	The presentation was poor. Speaker was not well prepared w/ many mistakes.