

Lesson Title: Let's Read It In the Paper
Lesson Designed By: Jackie Wyant, Trenton R-IX,
Special Education/Life Skills, 6th Grade,
Social Studies, July 2007

Teaching Traditional American History Program

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Mike Lair, Project Director

<http://www.chillihistoryproject.com>

Lesson Overview: In this lesson, students will become familiar with the insight and first hand accounts the life of a young girl during the Battle of Gettysburg. Much of the news from the war came from rumors. The students will put some rumors to rest and make a newspaper from the young girls account and their own perceptions by writing personal narratives.

Objectives:

Missouri Social Studies Grade Level Expectations (GLE)

- (6) Knowledge of relationships of the individual and groups to institutions and cultural traditions. (5E) Effect of personal and group experiences on perceptions.
- Identify how personal and group experiences influence people's perceptions and judgments of events.

Missouri Communication Arts (Writing) Grade Level Expectations (GLE)

- (3) Write effectively in various forms and types of writing. (A) Narrative and descriptive writing.
- Write a personal narrative that chronicals a sequence of three or more events
 - Includes sensory detail and dialogue

Materials and References:

- Alleman, Tillie Pierce. At Gettysburg, or What A Girl Saw and Heard of the Battle (Excerpts at the teacher's discursion for time allowed)
- Wallpaper samples
- Tissue paper
- Brown bags or wrapping paper
- Black shoe polish
- Paper bowl
- Toothpicks
- Butcher paper

Class Time: Two - fifty minute class periods to include Social Studies and Communication Arts.

Teacher Input and Activity:

Class 1 – Social Studies - Explain to the students that the excerpts from At Gettysburg, Or What A Girl Saw and Heard of the Battle by Mrs. Tillie Pierce Alleman. Is a true account of the battle and will give students an insight of what happened from a young girls viewpoint. This will provide a perfect opportunity for the students to reproduce information for a newspaper article they will write during Communication Arts.

Class 2 – Communication Arts – Explain to the students that much of the news from the war front consisted of rumors. The most dependable source of information was the newspaper. Both Union and Confederate forces would read each others newspapers to try and gain information. The North with more paper mills and printing presses, therefore they had more newspapers.

Sadly, enough, as the war continued paper became scarce, particularly for the Confederate states. Instead of using paper to write, their newspapers on they wrote on scraps of paper. When they ran out of newsprint, they printed on the back of patterned wallpaper, brown wrapping paper, and thin tissue paper. When supplies of ink ran out, they would use shoe polish. By the end of the war, only twenty Southern newspapers remained.

Encourage the students to not only write information that they have gathered from At Gettysburg, Or What A Girl Saw and Heard of the Battle by Mrs. Tillie Pierce Alleman, but to make their own account of the Battle.

Directions:

- 1) Hand out different types of paper to the students such as wallpaper, tissue paper, or brown paper.
- 2) Pour shoe polish into paper bowl. Use toothpicks dipped in shoe polish to write three or four sentences reporting events on the battlefield or home front.
- 3) Mount all reports on butcher paper to create a giant “newspaper”.

Closure: The class will discuss how the experiences on the battlefield and at home influenced how people felt and passed judgment on the war.

Assessment: This project is worth 100 points. Points will be awarded for neatness, grammar, punctuation and the content relating to the Battle of Gettysburg. The scoring rubric is attached for grading.

Extension: Various documents of reproductions will be on display for the students to view such as Harper’s Weekly News, Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, Bill of Rights, and Gettysburg Address. This will allow students to see the writing and feel the texture of the paper used during that era and compare it to our newspapers today.

Newspaper : It's a Battle Out There!

Teacher Name: **J Wyant**

Student Name: _____

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Layout - Headlines & Captions	All articles have headlines that capture the reader's attention and accurately describe the content.	All articles have headlines that accurately describe the content.	Most articles have headlines that accurately describe the content.	Articles are missing headlines that accurately describe the content.
Spelling and Proofreading	No more than a couple of spelling or grammar errors.	No more than a four of spelling or grammar errors.	No more than 5 spelling or grammar errors	More than 5 spelling or grammar errors.
Neatness	Articles are neat and easy to read.	Articles are somewhat neat and easy to read	Article could use some improvement in neatness.	Article is basically unlegeable due to neatness of article.
Requirements	All of the required content was present.	Almost all the required content was present.	At least 75% of the required content was present.	Less than 75% of the required content was present.

Date Created: **Jul 08, 2007 10:54 pm (CDT)**