

Lesson Plan Title: Alaska's Gold Rush

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Discipline / Subject: US History

Topic: Gold rush in the Klondike and Alaska; analyzing primary and secondary sources

Grade Level: 6th- 12th

Resources / References / Materials Teacher Needs:

Project Based Learning Rubric

Lesson Summary:

Students will read secondary sources and primary sources on the Klondike and Alaska Gold Rush. From their study, they will create a Project Based Learning Task, an online page in a history textbook, discerning what to do with conflicting information, which primary source graphics to include, and what would best capture student interest in a text.

Standards Addressed: (Local, State, or National)

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.9

Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.11 – 12.6

Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, as well as in words) in order to address a question or solve a problem.

Learning objectives:

1. Students will understand the difficulties historians face when studying the pieces of history that primary sources provide and putting together “what happened” as best they can.
2. Students will analyze and coordinate information from various sources into a well-written on-line textbook page.

Assessment:

Project Based Learning Rubric

Procedural Activities

1. Introduce students to the quandary historians have when trying to piece together primary sources to determine what really happened during a historic event or time period.
2. Discuss primary and secondary sources, comparing and contrasting
3. Assign students the project task; it may be a group/partner project or individual project

4. Students use devices to read about the Klondike and Alaska gold rush, analyzing the various sources and then combining them into a product that will demonstrate their understanding of the event, as well as the challenge of combining information from various sources.

Materials Students Need: Project packet, PDF with links to primary and secondary sources, devices

Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning:

- Google Slides for the online textbook page creation
- Devices to view and read secondary source articles and primary sources

Other Information

Modifications for special learners/ Enrichment Opportunities:

1. Students can research beyond the provided sites to gain more understanding of a particular event within the Klondike and Alaska Gold Rush
2. Students can arrange a Skype interview with a National Park Ranger in Alaska to possibly insert some video footage into their online textbook page