

Lesson Plan by Amanda Cosaboom

Lesson: Welcome to 1776 Length: 2 hours

Age or Grade Intended: 5th Grade

Adapted from: <http://www.proteacher.net/archive/posts/2001/01/22/14266.html>

Academic Standards:

Standard 1

History

The American Revolution: 1763 to 1783

- 5.1.11 Analyze the causes of the Revolution, such as colonial resistance to British imperial policies, the denial of traditional rights of Englishmen to American colonists, and taxation without representation.
- 5.1.14 Identify and evaluate contributions of women during the American Revolution, including Abigail Adams, Martha Washington, Mercy Otis Warren, and Molly Pitcher.
- 5.1.15 Explain consequences of the Revolution, including the drafting of state constitutions and the achievement of independence by the United States.

Performance Objectives: The fifth grade students will visit each center, participating in each activity, and answer the questions at each center in writing with 90% accuracy.

Assessment: The teacher will be walking around observing the students participating in each center and will collect the written answers to the questions at the end. Each student will be assessed on participation and their answers. The class will also have a discussion at the end of center time.

Advanced Preparation by Teacher/Materials: The teacher will have each center set up with the proper materials, will have questions at each center, decide how to divide the class up to travel to each center, and make sure the students have paper and writing utensils.

The Centers

Colonial Food (samples of colonial food)

Colonial Closet (website on dressing a colonial girl and boy)

Colonial Transportation

African Americans in colonial times

Political Cartoons (Ben Franklin's "Join or Die")

Procedure:

Introduction/Motivation: What do you think life was like back in the 1700's? Do you think people ate the same things we do today? Wore the same things? Well, today you are going to get a chance to go back in time and see what life was like during the American Revolution time period, which was from 1763 to 1783.

- Step-by-Step:** 1. I am going to break you down into groups of about five. Once you are in this group, you will stay with this group as you travel. (Divide the class into groups)
2. I am going to assign each group a center to start with and you will stay at that center until I say it is time to move to the next one. At each center, there is an activity that you need to do. There is a sheet with directions posted at each center as well as a list of questions you must answer. So you will need to take your notebooks and a pencil or pen with you to each center. At the end I will collect the answers to the questions and go through them so you need to make sure to answer them as best as you can.
3. Go through each center describing what is at each one and what the students are to do at each one.
4. Send the students to the centers and tell them that when you say it is time to rotate they will rotate clockwise. Give them an example (if you are at the colonial food center go to the colonial closet center).
5. Now that all of you have visited each center, I want you to put your answers in the homework basket and then go sit down on the reading rug. We are going to have a discussion about what you discovered about colonial life.
6. Have the discussion, making sure to give everyone a chance to speak and listening to all ideas.

Closure: Since all of you now have an idea of what life was like during the American Revolution, we are going to begin our unit on the American Revolution. We will study how our country gained its independence, the people who helped the process, and what it means to us now. So come in to school tomorrow ready to learn about our country's past.

Adaptations/Enrichments: For my students needing adaptations, they can work with a partner or, if possible, an aide/volunteer. For those needing enrichments, they can write a report or story about colonial life using what they learned in the centers as a basis.

Self-Reflection: Were the students able to learn from the centers? Did they gain an understanding of colonial life? What could I do differently next time to improve the experience?