

The Emancipation Proclamation

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Standards

IL.1.B.3a > Preview reading materials, make predictions and relate reading to information from other sources.

IL.5.A STANDARD: Locate, organize, and use information from various sources to answer questions, solve problems and communicate ideas.

IL.5.B.3b > Identify, evaluate and cite primary sources.

IRA.1.4 ...illustrate that literacy can be a means for transmitting moral and cultural values

Resources

[Library of Congress Web Page](#)

Overview and Rationale

This lesson can be used for a seventh or eighth grade class when learning about the Civil War era. The students will use the library of congress website to analyze the Emancipation Proclamation and respond to a variety of questions.

Grade: 7th or 8th

Duration: 1 to 2 class periods

Objectives

Students will use the library of congress web site to analyze President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation as a primary source.

Students will use the library of congress web site to answer the discussion questions provided.

Students will make predictions on what the proclamation entailed.

Students will realize the proclamation changed moral and cultural values for the U.S.

Materials

Computers with an internet connection for students.

Assessment Worksheet.

Procedure

1. Students will be taken to a computer lab or another area in the school with internet access.
2. Have the students break into pairs, or assign them a partner.
3. Hand out the discussion worksheet to the students.
4. Explain to the students that the library of congress has a website with great primary resources available for anyone to use. Tell the students to go to www.loc.gov which is the web site and explore it for ten to fifteen minutes.
5. Have the students go to the website:
<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/alhtml/almintr.html>
6. Next explain that since they have been working on the Civil War, they will be exploring President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation today. Also, students will work with their partner to answer the questions on the worksheet.
7. Go over the directions on the worksheet and ask if there are any questions and that the answers can be written on a separate sheet of paper, or typed on the computer.
8. Allow time to work on the questions, 45 min or so.
9. After working on the questions have students print out their answers if need be and head back to the classroom.

10. Discuss the various answers that students found when working on the worksheet.

11. Also discuss how their views on the proclamation were before the lesson and after.

12. Collect the worksheet and grade accordingly.

Adaptations: If a student has a seeing disability have the students partner read the introduction part of the website to them. Also as a teacher help the student out on the visual difference question by describing the various changes that the documents have between them.

Assessment

Students will complete the worksheet discussion questions and discuss topics after research. The following is the point system to use for assessment.

Worksheet Questions should be graded with 3pts beside number 6.

1pt for answering the questions

1pt for using complete sentences

1pt for demonstrating knowledge on the question

Number 6.

1pt for using 3 to 4 sentences

1pt for acknowledging at least one idea from the proclamation

1pt for less than 5 spelling errors

1pt for answering the questions

Discussion in class:

The student will receive a max of 8 points for joining in the discussion in class.

As a teacher you may assess how you see fit for this section, but _____ out of 8 points should be used.

Total will be _____ out of 30pts.

Reflection

After putting this lesson together I feel that it is perfect for the grade level because the Civil War is covered in the 7th and 8th grade curriculum in most districts and this lesson will be a useful one to use. Also I feel that the discussion questions are good at assessing the student's analysis of the website. An extension to the lesson could be having the students come up with their own proclamations or proclamations that other leaders have made over time. In all I feel that this will be a great lesson.