

Jefferson's Talents — For ELD Students

General

Grade Level

High School

Author Info

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Type of Lesson

Cooperative Learning

Duration

1.5 class periods

Interdisciplinary Connections

Music, botany, meteorology, architecture, library sciences, and general fine arts

Objectives

Overview

Using a few key sources (visual, written, and musical) students explore Jefferson's multiple talents and interests, culminating with the creation of a Jefferson "Pinterest" wall and gallery walk.

Prior Knowledge

Students should have a good working knowledge of Jefferson's biography. It is best if they have already read the handout "The Life of Thomas Jefferson" biography for ELD students section on Jefferson's talents (preferably as homework the night before).

State Standards

CA Content Standards for American History:

11.1 Students analyze the significant events in the founding of the nation and its attempts to realize the philosophy of government described in the Declaration of Independence.

11.1.1 Describe the Enlightenment and the rise of democratic ideas as the context in which the nation was founded.

11.1.2 Analyze the ideological origins of the American Revolution, the Founding Fathers' philosophy of divinely bestowed unalienable natural rights, the debates on the drafting and ratification of the Constitution, and the addition of the Bill of Rights.

Common Core Reading Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies

1. Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, connecting insights gained from specific details to an understanding of the text as a whole.

4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including analyzing how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term over the course of a text

7. 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.

9. Integrate information from diverse sources, both primary and secondary, into a coherent understanding of an idea or event, noting discrepancies among sources.

Objectives/Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to articulate Jefferson's many talents and interests, and connect them to a larger understanding of Jefferson's personality.

Technology Connections/outcomes

This can be connected to larger themes and discussions of the Enlightenment.

Additional Learning Outcomes

Students will make "Pinterest" postings for Jefferson to display his many talents and interests.

Procedures

1. *5 minutes*

Warm Up:

Have students individually journal their answer to the following questions:

– What are 6 of your hobbies or talents? What do they show about your personality?

Students can share out if time permits.

2. *5 minutes*

Transition:

Hand out directions sheet for “Thomas Jefferson’s Talents” and go over directions with students. Divide students into 6 groups and have them move into groups. Hand out primary sources so that each group has 1 kind of source.

3. *15 minutes*

Lesson Activity:

Facilitate as students work through primary sources in their groups to understand what Jefferson’s talents and interests were. **Help music group access .mp3 audio recording of “Money Musk” from

<http://explorer.monticello.org/text/index.php?id=54&type=5>

Assist students as needed while they answer questions relating to their sources.

4. *5 minutes*

Transition:

As groups finish their source analysis and questions, hand out poster paper and art supplies to each group.

5. *20 minutes*

Summative Activity:

Facilitate as students make their “Pinterest” posting for Jefferson’s “wall.” When done, students should “pin” their posting to the classroom bulletin board or wall.

6. *15 – 20 minutes*

The Next Day

Have students do a gallery walk through all the Pinterest postings that students created throughout the day before. They should use this information to answer the summary questions on their directions sheet from the day before.

Related Assets

Handouts and Downloads

- [Jefferson Biography for ELD Students](#)
- [Jefferson's Talents Worksheet for ELD Students](#)

Materials

Materials Needed

- 6 pieces of poster paper per class
- Markers, crayons, colored pencils, etc.
- Handouts of “Thomas Jefferson’s Talents”
- Computer with speakers (and multiple headsets if possible) to play .mp3 “Money Musk” from Monticello website:

<http://explorer.monticello.org/text/index.php?id=54&type=5>

- Clear bulletin board or wall to post

Technology Needs

- Computer with speakers (and multiple headsets if possible) to play .mp3 “Money Musk” from Monticello website:

<http://explorer.monticello.org/text/index.php?id=54&type=5>

Assessment

Homework

Complete Pinterest posting, if not done in class.

Assessment

Teachers can assess students on their Pinterest posting and on answers to summary questions.