



LESSON PLAN: A Different Kind of Childhood - Life for a Revolutionary War Child

Overview concept - Students will engage with this display and discuss similarities and differences they notice about children during this time period. Teachers will guide students to compare and contrast their lives with modern day lives and the life of a Revolutionary War child. Students will have a large worksheet with a triple Venn Diagram that will have information printed into it (to save kids taking too many notes) and then blank parts for modern life and their life to add. Students will work in groups or partners to reflect and discuss their lives and compare and contrast. Teachers will discuss findings and then students can use this document and their Social Studies curriculum to create an essay (optional extension).

4th and 5th grade Standards

Grade 4

Craft and Structure

4R5: In literary texts, identify and analyze structural elements, using terms such as verse, rhythm, meter, characters, settings, dialogue, stage directions. (RL)

In informational texts, identify the overall structure using terms such as sequence, comparison, cause/effect, and problem/solution. (RI)

4R6: In literary texts, compare and contrast the point of view from which different stories are narrated, including the difference between first- and third-person narrations. (RL)

In informational texts, compare and contrast a primary and secondary source on the same event or topic. (RI)

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

4R7: Identify information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, timelines, animations, illustrations), and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text. (RI&RL)

Text Types and Purposes (Writing)

4W5: Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to respond and support analysis, reflection, and research by applying the grade 4 Reading Standards.

4W3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.



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Grade 5

Key Ideas and Details

5R3: In literary texts, compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, and events, drawing on specific details in the text. (RL) In informational texts, explain the relationships or interactions between two or more individuals, events, ideas, or concepts based on specific evidence from the text. (RI)

Craft and Structure

5R5: In literary texts, explain how a series of chapters, scenes, or stanzas fits together to determine the overall structure of a story, drama, or poem. (RL)

In informational texts, compare and contrast the overall structure in two or more texts using terms such as sequence, comparison, cause/effect, and problem/solution. (RI)

5R6: In literary texts, explain how a narrator's or speaker's point of view influences how events are described. (RL) In informational texts, analyze multiple accounts of the same event or topic, noting important similarities and differences in the point of view they represent. (RI)

Integration of knowledge and Ideas

5R7: Analyze how visual and multimedia elements contribute to meaning of literary and informational texts. (RI&RL)

Text Types and Purposes

5W1: Write an argument to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence



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Materials: Large desk sized copies of worksheet printed on it, pencils, Google Slide with visual of display of worksheet

Opening/Engagement - How is your life different from kids during the Revolutionary War? What do you think could be the same? Different? Let's find out -

1. Display Google slide with an image of Fort Stanwix National Monument or of Prezi about the Campaign of 1777 found here:
https://prezi.com/view/mDWdPM6FOuvXczYQxql5/?referral_token=NbQFYqInB3FN
2. Talk about different aspects of life during the Revolutionary War, adding ideas from classroom knowledge and curriculum.
3. Discuss modern times, compare and contrast
4. Give students 5 minutes to reflect and add to the section about their own lives.
5. Break into groups and have students complete the overlapping sections of the circle
6. Come back together as a class and share what they have learned.
7. If time or interest allows, this activity can be expanded into a compare/contrast essay
8. Display posters

Closing - How is your life different from kids during the Revolutionary War? What do you think could be the same? Different?

Assessment options - Quick write answering this question as a paragraph that is collected and graded or an essay.

Extension Activity – Interview older family and friends and present information.



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Grade 4 Social Studies

4.3d Growing conflicts between England and the 13 colonies over issues of political and economic rights led to the American Revolution. New York played a significant role during the Revolution, in part due to its geographic location.

- Students will examine issues of political and economic rights that led to the American Revolution.
- Students will examine New York's geographic location relative to the other colonies, locate centers of Loyalist support, and examine the extent of the British occupation.
- Students will examine which Native Americans supported the British and which Native Americans supported the Patriot cause.
- Students will explore why African Americans volunteered to fight with the British during the war.
- Students will investigate the strategically important battles of Long Island and Saratoga and why the Battle of Saratoga is considered by many to be a turning point. A turning point can be an event in history that brought about significant change.

Grade 5 Social Studies

5.3b Europeans encountered and interacted with Native Americans in a variety of ways.

- Students will examine how Native Americans viewed the newcomers.

5.4c The physical environment influences human population distribution, land use, and other forms of economic activity.

- Students will use physical, climate, and vegetation maps in combination with population density, land use, and resource distribution maps to discern patterns in human settlement and types of economic activity.