



Activity 18

Let's Be Pioneers



Activity:

Students plan and perform pantomime skits to illustrate mastery of vocabulary and content

Curriculum Fit:

Grade 2 - Social Studies

Unit 2.2: A Community in the Past

Outcomes: 2.2.3 Appreciate how connections to a community contribute to one's identity

2.2.6 Analyze how the community being studied emerged, by exploring and reflecting upon the question: What individuals or groups contributed to the development of their community?

2.2.7 Examine how the community being studied has changed, by exploring and reflecting upon the question: In what ways has our community changed over time

Grade 2 - English Language Arts

Outcomes: 2.2 Discuss, represent or write about interesting or important aspects of oral, print or other media texts

3.4 Share, with familiar audiences, ideas and information on topics

4.3 Use effective oral and visual communication



con't

Grade 4 - Social Studies: Alberta

Topic B: Alberta: Its People in History

Major Generalization 1: Sub-Generalization - Albertans have been affected and challenged by historical events.

Outcomes: Process Skills: Gather information by identifying time and place relationships

Outcomes: Communication skills: Orally present information on a period of Alberta's history, based on prepared notes and supported by pictorial materials giving consideration to the audience, use of social studies terms, content and organization

Outcomes: Communication skills: Role play a historical event or show Albertan's adjustment to a changing lifestyle

Grade 4 - English Language Arts

Outcomes: 3.4 Communicate ideas and information in a variety of oral, print and other media texts, such as short reports, talks, and posters

4.3 Present to peers ideas and information on a topic of interest in a well-organized form

4.3 Add interest to presentations through the use of props, such as pictures, overheads and artifacts

Agriculture Concepts:

Technology and capital intensity

Cognitive Level:

Application, Synthesis

Materials Required:

Action cards provided.

Time Required:

One class period.

Background -- For the Teacher

In this activity students focus on the community aspect of the lifestyles of the early settlers. Some things the settlers did co-operatively, such as barn-raising; other tasks they did independently, such as planting crops. Discuss the reasons behind both the self-reliant behaviour and the co-operative behaviour. The students will plan and perform pantomime skits using action cards depicting either an independent or a co-operative activity. The skits not only reinforce learning in the social studies area, but also allow for practice in language arts skills.

Procedure

Preparation

1. Separate and mount action cards on stiff backing, or laminate cards.

Procedure

2. Separate class into groups of 3 or 4 students.
3. Have one person in each group pick an action card from the pile of cards which are face down on the table.
4. Give students 5 minutes to prepare pantomime role play.
5. Have audience guess the action.
6. Continue with other groups until everyone has had a chance to present or until class time is up.

Conclusion

7. Have students write a short story "A day in the Life of a Pioneer" in which they incorporate some of the action words read on the cards.

Discussion Questions

1. What do you like about being a pioneer?
2. What would you miss if you were a pioneer instead of a student today?
3. Would being a pioneer be easier or harder than being a student today? Why?

Related Activities

1. Divide class into larger groups of 6 - 8. Have each group write a skit about an aspect of rural life that they found especially interesting. These skits may be presented to the class or to the school at an assembly.

Sheet One

STUDENT RESOURCE



Pioneer Action Cards

<p><i>CLEARING LAND FOR FARMING</i></p>	<p><i>PLANTING CORN</i></p>	<p><i>HARVESTING WHEAT</i></p>
<p><i>SHEARING SHEEP</i></p>	<p><i>PICKING WILD BERRIES</i></p>	<p><i>BARN RAISING</i></p>
<p><i>FEEDING THE CHICKENS</i></p>	<p><i>WEAVING CLOTH</i></p>	<p><i>CHOPPING WOOD</i></p>



STUDENT RESOURCE
Sheet Two
Pioneer Action Cards

<i>MAKING BUTTER</i>	<i>GATHERING EGGS</i>	<i>PLOUGHING THE FIELDS</i>
<i>GRINDING FLOUR</i>	<i>BUILDING A LOG CABIN</i>	<i>BAKING BREAD</i>
<i>QUILTING BEE</i>	<i>HUNTING DEER</i>	<i>MILKING THE COW</i>