

Unit Title: Westward Expansion- Character Research

Grade Level: 7th Grade

Subject Area: American History

Duration/Length/Number of class periods: 5 Class periods

Description: Students will research 2 people of interest from Westward Expansion

Established Goals:

MN State Standard: 7.4.1.2.1

Pose questions about a topic in United States history, gather and organize a variety of primary and secondary sources related to the questions, analyze sources for credibility and bias; suggest possible answers and write a thesis statement; use sources to draw conclusions and support the thesis; present supported findings, and cite sources.

What Enduring Understandings are desired?

Contributions made by people who persevered through the expansion of the US impacted our country's current story.

The United State's economic, social, and political climate were shaped by the individuals in the communities throughout the nation.

One individual can affect a community through their actions, positive or negative.

Understanding a significant time of change, such as the Westward Expansion, helps us to understand how people adapt as individuals and as a community.

What Essential Questions will be considered?

How did the contribution made by this individual impact the story of our country?

Were the contributions of this person positive or negative? Or, both? Who makes that decision?

How can you learn the story of a person who lived before you?

Students will know / be able to:

Students will know how the individual shaped and contributed to Westward Expansion. Students will identify how the individual's story and character eventually led them to become a contributor to US Expansion. The students will identify 2-3 contributions that were made, and how those contributions served future settlers.

List what connections they have with the person they researched.

Description <i>Units must include at least one of each formative, summative, introductory activity and learning activity. Check the appropriate box; one per row.</i>	Formative	Summative	Introductory Activity	Learning Activity	Student Technology Used	Teacher Technology Used	ISTE Standards
1. Share information about Westward Expansion Quizziz Presentation			x	X	Quizziz	Quizziz	1c and 1d
2. Have students start by researching 3 individuals of Westward Expansion using the PBS Website and The West: Biographical Dictionary Reflection a. Quick share with table mates/partner about information that was found	x			X	Ipad and Explorer	Apple Classroom	3a and 3b
3. Students will then choose one individual to do deeper research using https://elibrarymn.org/ a. Essential questions will be reviewed prior to this step b. Students will share a one word description of their individual using Mentimeter WordCloud - teacher will emphasize the impact these individuals had on history using Word Cloud examples	x			X	Ipad and	Apple Classroom and Wordcloud	2c, and 2d, and 3a, 3b and 3c
4. Students will create a “product” introducing the information that they have learned about their individual. a. Students may choose to produce: • First Person Speech using Chatterpix • Journal using Google Slides or Google Docs • Cartoon using Notability or Notes • Newspaper using Google Slides or Google Doc • Song using Garage Band or Sound Recorder		x			Chatterpix, Google Slides and Docs, Notability, Notes, Garage Band and Sound Recorder	Apple Classroom and Schoology	6a, 6b, 6c, and 6d

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