



Social Studies Unit | Grades 6-8 | Lesson 4: Oak Trail Schoolhouse

Lesson Description

Ever wonder what life on a farm would have been like over 100 years ago? Well head to McHaffie's Homestead and take a walking tour into living history! Don't miss the Oak Trail Schoolhouse where you can take a step back in time and experience the simple life in a one-room schoolhouse. Compare school today with this school of the past and see which one you would prefer. This might have been the type of school your great grandparents or even your grandparents were taught in!

Concepts

Local history

Objectives

Students will:

- Learn what Ozark life was like in the 1880s.
 - Understand what a typical school was like for early settlers.
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Content Standards

GLE's: SS 3c, f; SS 4e, f; SS 5c, e, i, j; SS 6f, h, i

National Standards in Social Studies

Arts and Communication

- **Standard 5:** Knows a range of arts and communication works from various historical and cultural periods.
 - Benchmark 5, Grades 9-12: Knows art forms that reflect cultural elements of the local community (e.g. folk art, utilitarian objects, community environment (landscape and architecture), works of local professional artists and craftsmen).

Grades K-4 History & Level II [Grade 3-4]

- **Standard 2:** Understands the history of a local community and how communities in North America varied long ago.
 - Benchmark 1, Grades K-2: Understands the changes in community life over time (e.g., changes in goods and services; changes in architecture and landscape; change in jobs, schooling, transportation, communication, religion, recreation).
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- Benchmark 7, Grades 3-4: Knows the history of the local community since it's founding, the people who came, the changes they brought, and significant events over time.
 - Benchmark 8, Grades 3-4: Understands changes in land use and economic activities in the local community since its founding (e.g., changes in technology, the work people did, transportation, local resources).
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Time Required

Approximately 45-60 minutes

Materials

- Student activity sheet from Kids-U-Cation website
 - Silver Dollar City Park Map & writing utensil
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Procedures

1. Print off the student activity sheet from the Kids-U-Cation website and hand out to students.
 2. Pick up a park map upon entering Silver Dollar City to get to various locations at McHaffie's Homestead.
 3. Turn into teacher for a completion or accuracy grade.
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Closure

Review the key points of this lesson by discussing the following:

- What area in McHaffie's Homestead did you find most interesting?
 - Having the technological advances we have today, do you think you would have enjoyed living during this time period?
 - What things did you like about the "simple life" in the 1800s?
 - Any fun facts that just stuck out in your head?
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Assessment/Independent Practice

Give an assignment or test of your choice.

Oak Trail Schoolhouse



In the 1800s most students walked many miles in the freezing cold, blinding rain, blizzard like conditions, and blistering hot weather to get to their schoolhouse. The Oak Trail Schoolhouse was built here at Silver Dollar City in 1962 to resemble a typical schoolhouse in the 1800s. Upon walking through the schoolhouse you will notice that it is a one-room school much different from our schools today.

Directions: Take a seat in one of the desks and listen to the school Marm as she tells you about school days in the 1800s. Then compare the school you are in now and the Oak Trail Schoolhouse by completing the Venn diagram below.

School Days

Compare and Contrast

