

Lesson 1

Daily Life on Aquidneck Island

Subject Area: Social Studies, Language Arts, Math and Art

Time Frame: 3 40 minute class periods

Objectives: The students will be able to:

- Compare and contrast city life versus country life.
- Analyze the effects of British rule on daily life.
- Describe the various jobs people held during this time.

Materials:

- Shoe boxes
- If You Lived in Colonial Times
- If You Lived During the Revolutionary War
- Construction paper
- Markers
- Copies of Newport tax roles
- Craft items

Learner factors:

Instruction will be differentiated by using two levels of text. Students significantly below grade level will have the reading read to them or listen to the books/articles on tapes. Assignments may be modified or extended as needed. Difficult vocabulary and concepts will be discussed for non-native speakers.

Motivational Activity:

Teacher will ask students to imagine what a map of Aquidneck Island might have looked like during the Revolutionary period. A current map and a map of the Revolutionary period will be displayed side by side. A class discussion will ensue around similarities and differences and possible theories for the disbursement of the populations.

Lesson Development:

1. Students will compare and contrast a modern map with one from the colonial period.
2. Students will discuss where people lived and possible reasons why.
3. Teacher will ask students to brainstorm a list of jobs from this period.

4. Teacher place all responses in a hat. Students will draw from the hat for their new profession.
5. Class will brainstorm a list of questions to research. These might include: What supplies will I need to open my business? Where will I get them? Will I have to pay a tax to England? Where would be the best place to locate my business? Who will I employ? How much will I have to pay them? How will I distribute my product? Etc.
6. Students will find answers to these questions to make a business plan.
7. Teacher will brainstorm a list of criteria for the diorama and business plans with the students.
8. Students will create a diorama which depicts their business.
9. Students will set up their dioramas to simulate a town.

Closure:

Students will view the “town” and discuss which businesses are dependent upon one another.

Follow Up/Tie In:

This is one of eight lessons on the Revolutionary War on Aquidneck Island.

Student Assessment:

Teacher will review dioramas and business plans to assess for understanding.