

Underground Railroad Lesson Plan

Lesson Length: 1 ½ hours

Third Grade Students

Subject: Reading/Social Studies

Topic: sequence, main events, theme



Goals and Objectives:

*Students will identify and list at least three of the main events from a given book.

*Students will illustrate each event.

*Students will sequence their identified main events in proper order according to their book.

*Students will document the title and author of their given book.

*Students will determine the theme of their given book.



Kentucky Core Content Connections:

RD-E-2.0.7 Identify the organizational pattern in a passage: sequence, cause and effect, and/or comparison and contrast.

RD-E-1.0.6 Explain the meaning of a passage taken from texts appropriate for elementary school students.

SS-E-2.4.1 As cultures emerge and develop, conflict and competition (e.g., disagreements, arguments, stereotypes, prejudice) may occur.



Materials/Technology:

A variety of Underground Railroad books-could include but not limited to:

A Picture Book of Harriet Tubman by David A. Adler

Secret Signs Along the Underground Railroad by Anita Riggio

Aunt Harriet's Underground Railroad in the Sky by Faith Ringgold

Barefoot Escape on the Underground Railroad by Pamela Duncan Edwards

A Picture Book of Sojourner Truth by David A. Adler

Harriet Tubman and Black History Month by Polly Carter

Minty A Story of Young Harriet Tubman by Allen Schroeder and Jerry Pinkney

Follow the Drinking Gourd by Jeanette Winter

Escape from Slavery: Five Journeys to Freedom by Doreen Rappaport pencil

crayons, markers, or colored pencils

1 ziplock bag per group containing the following:

1 train engine page per group of students

1 train caboose page per group of students

at least three boxcars per group of students

Underground Railroad Book Activity Sheet

Underground Railroad Direction Sheet



Procedures:

Introduction

Introduce the lesson to the students by reading the Eliza story from Escape from Slavery: Five Journeys to Freedom. Point out three or four main events in the story. Discuss the theme of the story with the students.

Body

Explain that each group will get a book. They are to read the book together.

As they read they should consider the following questions:

1. What is the theme of the book?

2. What are the three or four most important events in the book?

Have students answer these questions on the Underground Railroad Book Activity Sheet out of their ziplock bag.

After students have completed the Underground Railroad Book Activity Sheet, students begin to fill out caboose, engine, and cars. Instructions are on the Underground Direction Sheet.

Allow students adequate time to complete the assignment.

Conclusion

Allow students to share their trains.



Student Assessment:

Students will be assessed on the correct of events from their book. Students will also be assessed on identifying the correct theme of the story.



Teacher Resources:

[Underground Railroad Direction Sheet](#)

[Underground Railroad Book Activity Sheet](#)



Internet Resources:

<http://www2.lhric.org/pocantico/tubman/tubman.html>

<http://www.npca.org/walk.html>

<http://education.ucdavis.edu/NEW/STC/lesson/socstud/railroad/contents.htm>