

**“It’s News to Me!”
Teaching with Colorado’s Historic Newspaper Collection
Model Lesson Format**

Lesson Title:

Historical Fiction Story

Subject and Grade Level:

7-12 Language Arts, History

Focus of Lesson: A brief explanation of what students are to learn in this lesson (content and/or skills). What is the purpose of the lesson?

In this lesson, students will identify a historical event of their choice. Students will then investigate this character by researching the *Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection*. After gathering three separate articles (sources), students will write a short historical fiction story. The story must contain references (quotations) from the articles used.

Standards Assessed: Which standards will you be assessing in this lesson? Identify the content area, the standard number and any key components or benchmarks that are applicable.

Reading and Writing Standard 1: Students read and understand a variety of materials.

Information Literacy Standard 1: The information literate student accesses information efficiently and effectively.

Information Literacy Standard 2: The information literate student evaluates information critically and competently.

Information Literacy Standard 3: The information literate student uses information accurately and creatively.

Assessment: Explain the assessment. (Include the formal 'assessment assignment' and any forms, worksheets, etc. in the Materials Section)

Assessment will be made by the outcome of the story the student writes. Students are allowed to be creative but their sources must be present in their story. An additional rubric is included.

Standards Addressed: Which standards will you be addressing (but not assessing) in this lesson? Identify the content area, the standard number and any key components or benchmarks that are applicable.

History Standard 2: Students know how to use the processes and resources of historical inquiry.

History Standard 2.2: Students know how to interpret and evaluate primary and secondary sources of historical information.

Time: The number of class periods required for the lesson as well as the length of class period.

This assignment will take up about six one hour periods.

Materials / Teacher Preparation Section: List the technology, handouts, chart paper, text resources, etc. needed to complete the lesson. Include what you need to do to prepare ahead of time for your students to complete the lesson.

The materials needed for this lesson are:

- Computers (1 for each student)
- Internet access for all
- Rubric
- Bibliography worksheet

Possible Procedures: Enumerate the procedure teachers can follow to teach the lesson to students. Provide the URL for the digital primary sources that you will use.

Day One:

1. Introduce students to Colorado's Historic newspaper Collection website. <http://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org>
2. Allow students to become familiar with website and search procedures.
3. Have students search for a historical event which they are interested in. Each student must find their event in three different sources in which their event is a main component.

Day Two and Three:

1. Students will read articles and arrange their information in organized notes.
2. Students will complete the bibliography worksheet.

Day Four:

1. Students begin to write their story. They can write anything they want as long as they use information they gathered from the three articles they researched.

Day Five:

1. Students will finish typing their stories. They will each peer edit for one of their classmates. Rubric will be given to each student. The rubric should be used when editing.
A final copy of the story will be due the next day.

Day Six:

1. Students share their stories with the class.

Themes for discussion:

- ❖ Media bias
- ❖ Secondary and primary sources

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