

Franklin College Lesson Plan

Student: Jennifer Sparkman

Grade Level: 4th

Cooperating Teacher: Jan Kehrt

Subject: Social Studies

Signature: _____

Date Planned: 10-30-03

Date Taught: 11-5-03

Topic: History of the American flag

Objectives: In order to organize timelines, TSWBAT make a class timeline outlining the history of the American flag by making a flag and finding the year and description of one of the American flags in groups of three.

Materials: 8 pieces of tagboard, Celebrate Freedom: Songs, Symbols, and Saying of the United States by Scott Foresman, 8 index cards (each with a picture of the American flag at a different time period), yard, 8 clothespins, markers, red, white, and blue construction paper

Procedures:

Classroom Management Step- “5...4...3...2...1!” “I need to see everyone’s beautiful eyes looking at me.”

Set the stage- Who knows what the American flag looks like? Ask a student to draw the flag on the board. How many stripes are on the flag? How many stars? Why is the flag red, white, and blue? Do you think that the American flag always looked like this?

- 1) The teacher tells the students that the American flag has changed many times in history. The United States of America has been through 8 flags. Hang a piece of yarn across the board and scatter the index

cards across the ledge. Tell the students that all of the flags on the index cards were at one time the flag for our country.

- 2) Have the student's vote on which flag they think was the first flag, which was the second, etc. Place the flags on the yarn with clothespins as they vote.
- 3) Hand out copies of Celebrate Freedom: Songs, Symbols, and Saying of the United States to every other student. They will share with a partner. Have the students turn to page 10. Call on a student to read the first paragraph. Discuss the information given in the paragraph. Have the student who read call on the next reader. As you read and discuss as a class have the students put the flags in correct order if they did not get them correct.
- 4) When the students are done reading, review the flag timeline. Ask the students without looking in the book to tell you why the flag changed each time.
- 5) Divide the students into groups of three. Assign each group of three to date in flag history. Tell the students that they will be constructing the flag with their corresponding time period on a large piece of tag board. They will also make a caption explaining their flag and dating it on white construction paper and backing it with red or blue. Tell the students to do their best work, because the flags will be displayed as a timeline in the hallway.

6) Tell the groups to pick a spot in the rooms and have one person come up to get the supplies. Tag board, markers, red, white, blue construction paper.

Closure: As the groups finish have them go into the hallway with you so that they can help display the flag on the large timeline.

Assessment: Give the students cutouts of each of the flags. They will assemble them into correct order and write a sentence describing why the flag was changed each time. They will also be asked what the colors of the flag represent. I will assess them individually and record it on a checklist.

Extension: Individual- Give the students flag trivia to write on construction paper that will be part of the hallway display. Whole class- Discuss the history of the Indiana state flag. Make a timeline to go along with it as well.

Remediation: Individual- The students can use their book to find a description of the flag when they are in their groups. Whole class- The students will make individual paper timelines. I will provide cutouts of each flag with the lines previously drawn. They will color the flag correctly and place them in order. I will punch holes in each flag and they will string them together for an individual timeline.

Homework: The students will design a flag that they would like to have if they had the opportunity to design a flag for our country.