

TEACHING AMERICAN HISTORY PROJECT

Taking a Closer Look at Colonial History

Grade: 5

Length of class period: two 45 minute sessions

Inquiry: How are we connected to artifacts from colonial times?

Objectives:

As a result of this lesson students will be able to:

- examine the details of an artifact more closely by dividing a picture into quadrants.
- infer the use of an artifact based on their observations.
- research to verify the actual use of the artifact and determine what connections can be made between the artifact and a similar article in modern times.

Materials:

- the Internet, computers for groups of students, a projector for sharing findings
- PowerPoint files: Artifact Model, individual Artifacts 1-12, All Artifacts for Sharing
- Answer sheet

Activity:

1. Small groups of 3-4 students brainstorm 3 items that are very important in their lives
2. Hypothesize what someone 3000 years from now might infer about the students lives based on the three final items determined by each group.
3. Show the Artifact Model PowerPoint and answer questions together as a whole class.
4. Assign pairs of students to each of the individual Artifacts PowerPoints and answer questions on the artifact analysis sheet.
5. Use the All Artifacts for Sharing PowerPoint to project the individual artifacts. The students share the connections they have extracted from their research.

How will you assess what student learned during this lesson?

1. Information from artifact analysis sheet
2. Presentations by the students

Connecticut Framework Performance Standards –

- Interpret data in historical maps, photographs, art works, and other artifacts
- Be active learners at cultural institutions such as museums and historical exhibitions.