

Diana Brown
Allyson Hardy
Wendy Norwood
Lane Parker

The Great Flood of 1927
Cross Curriculum Lesson
3rd -5th Grade

Students will be presented a broad overview of the flood of 1927. They will form an understanding of what happened, the people and their emotions, and the change of the land because of the flood.

Projected Time: 1 day
Grade Level: 3-5

Objectives:

Students will listen to a story, *Survival! Flood: Mississippi 1927*.

Students will form an understanding of the emotions and hardships the people encountered during the Flood of 1927.

Students will be able to describe the Flood of 1927.

Students will create a graph depicting the water levels during the time period of the flood.

Students will create a landscape inspired by the Flood of 1927.

Students will take an Accelerated Reading Quiz on the book *Survival! Flood: Mississippi 1927*.

Lesson Plan

1927 Flood

3rd – 5th Grade

Reading

Lane Parker

Objective: After reading the book, *Survival! Flood: Mississippi 1927*, the students will list the causes and effects of the flood.

Students will read the book over a two week period and participate in classroom discussions. Students will read aloud and silently. Teacher will model good reading skills and strategies. Teacher will guide the students in the discussions. Students will keep a daily journal of what they have read. Discussions will be inquiry based discussions.

Activities:

Students will keep a journal of their reflections on what they have read.

Students will make a list of the causes and effects of the flood.

Students will create a book of characters. Each character will have their own page and their experiences during the flood will be depicted.

Materials/Resources

Survival! Flood: Mississippi 1927.

Construction paper/markers

Chart paper

Lesson Plan

1927 Flood

3rd – 5th Grade

Language Arts

Wendy Norwood

Objective:

Students will use pictures of the Flood of 1927 to create sentences using a sentence chart as a guide.

Students will write a description of the flood using the writing process.

Students will create a scrapbook about the Flood of 1927.

Students will use information they have learned about the flood to create sentences. They will use a sentence chart as a guide. The teacher will guide the students as they create sentences.

Students will be taught the writing process by the teacher. They will use what they have learned to write a description of the Flood of 1927.

Students will use pictures, newspaper articles, and interviews with people who survived the flood to create a scrapbook of the Flood of 1927. The scrapbook will tell the story of the flood.

Activities:

Write a description of the Flood of 1927.

Students will create a scrapbook.

Students will write sentences describing pictures from the flood.

Materials/Resources:

Pictures of the flood

Construction paper, markers, typing paper

Four-Square Writing Plan

Lesson Plan

Flood 1927

3rd – 5th Grade

Math

Diana Brown

Objective:

Students will answer questions about the rising water of the Mississippi River using a given graph.

Students will study bar graphs. The teacher will practice reading bar graphs with the students. They will answer questions about a given graph about the rising water of the Mississippi River.

Activities:

Students will complete several practice graphs before working on the graph of the water stages of the Mississippi River.

Materials/Resources:

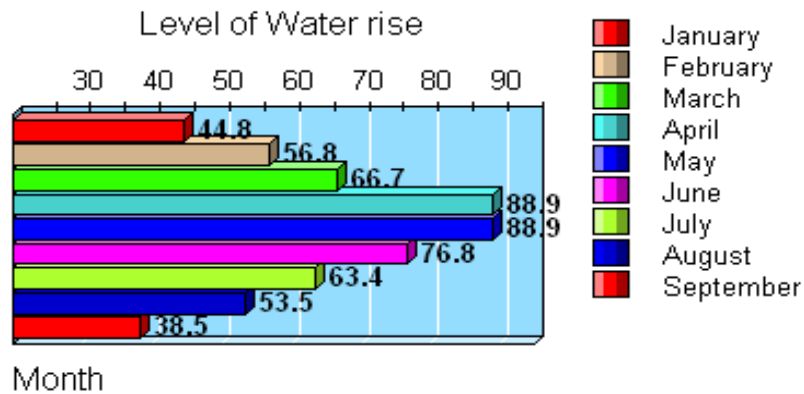
Graph of the water stages of the Mississippi River.

Practice

Bar Graph

This bar graph shows the average monthly water rise during the great flood of 1927 in Mississippi.

"The Straw that Broke the Levee Back"



1. The greatest increase was during the month of April. During which month was the greatest decrease?

2. During June the water started to decrease. During which other month did the water decrease from the preceding month?

3. During which month did the amount remain constant from the preceding month?

Prediction Question:

1. What is the probability of a great flood happening again?

Lesson Plan

Flood 1927

3rd – 5th Grade

Art

Allyson Hardy

Landscape Resist Painting inspired by the Great Flood

ARTMAKING PROCESSES AND TECHNIQUES:

Oil or Wax resist (oil pastels or crayons and tempera or watercolor)

ART ELEMENTS/PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN:

Color, shape, form, space, and balance

OBJECTIVES:

As a result of this unit, students will:

Art making

-Create a landscape on 12x18" drawing paper, using oil pastels and water based paint. Foreground, Middle Ground, Background, subject matter inspired by the flood, and the horizon line must be drawn in with pastels and then paint will be added to create the resist method.

Historical/Cultural

- View and understand what a landscape is and how it has been depicted throughout history by artists in paintings. View many typical and well known landscape paintings, such as classical and impressionist (ex; Monet). Also view landscapes depicting floods throughout history. View and Discuss photographs from the flood of 1927.

Criticism

- Identify and describe the foreground, middle ground, and the background in reproductions and in their own landscapes.

- Identify subject matter depicting the struggles and tragedy as a result of the flood in reproductions, photographs, and in their own artwork. Discuss emotional reaction to these artworks and photographs.

Aesthetics

-Decide if every landscape needs to be depicted realistically to be an artwork.

VOCABULARY

Background- is the area of the picture that is behind most of the objects in the picture. Usually near the horizon line.

Foreground- is the area of the picture that appears to be the closest to the viewer.

Middle ground- is the area of the picture that is farthest away from the background and closer to the background. (between the back and the fore)

Horizon Line- is the imaginary line that divides the sky and the ground.

Landscape- is an expanse of natural scenery that can be seen from a single viewpoint.

Motivation

-Students can draw inspiration from across the curriculum. There are Blues Songs, Poetry and Oral Histories all based on the flood of 1927. Read and discuss these, and talk about imagery they inspire. This lesson is a great culmination for a unit on the flood of 1927.

Instructional Methods:

- Teacher Demonstration
- Hands-on Student Involvement
- Group Discussion
- Individual Involvement

What You Need:

Oil pastels or crayons, 12x18 paper, tempera or water color paint, brushes, Enlarged examples of photographs from the flood, landscape art depicting flood scenes such as "The Great Flood of 1927" by Gil Cohen, Monet's "The Flood Waters", or "The Deluge" by Francis Danby

What You Do:

History/Criticism

Procedure (Teacher Directed)

-Ask the following Questions in looking at both photographs and Landscape artworks to encourage useful discussion and inspire subject matter:

-What makes this a landscape?

-Can you identify the foreground, Middle Ground, the Background and the Horizon Line?

How are these areas different from each other?

- Are these scenes painted realistically or more abstractly?
- What is going on in the painting that is a result of the flood?
- How does this painting or photograph make you feel?
- How does the artist use color?
- Why would a natural disaster like a great flood inspire art, music, and poetry to be created?

Art Making

Procedure (Teacher Directed)

1. Explain that their drawings must include a horizon line, foreground, middle ground, and background.
2. Demonstrate the oil pastel wax resist by drawing part of a composition and adding paint to an area.
3. Oil Pastels must be used first and paint next. Outline the drawing with pastel including some details and some color fill in and use paint for large areas of color.
4. Go over color mixing to produce tones and secondary colors.

(Independently) Students will:

1. Use a pencil to lightly sketch composition and subject matter.
2. Use oil pastel to outline drawing and fill in some colors.
3. Use paint to add in large areas of color to outlined drawing.

CLOSURE:

View Landscapes as a group and pose some of the same questions about student artwork from the original discussion. Display landscapes along with writings, poetry, and other works from the flood unit.