Discovering our Veterans: Carving their Stories out of Primary Sources

Grade Level(s): 4

Subject Area: Social Studies and ELA

This lesson will take 45 minutes per day for 4-5 days.

Benchmarks:

SS.4.A.1.2: Synthesize information related to Florida history through print and electronic media.

Supported:


Participatory:

Lesson Content:

Vocabulary:
Text Dependent Questions, Evidence, Inference, Conclusions, Primary Documents, Veterans, Expository Writing

Suggested Technology:
Document Camera, Computer for Presenter, Computers for Students, Internet Connection, LCD Projector, Speakers/Headphones, Adobe Flash Player, Microsoft Office, Computer Media Player, Java Plugin

Learning Objectives: What should students know and be able to do as a result of this lesson?

− Students will be able to write an expository essay using the conventions of Standard English.
− Students will be able to infer and draw conclusions based upon details from a text.
− Students will be able to analyze primary resources and gather information from the text.
− Students will be able to use evidence from the text to support their inferences.
− Students will be able to integrate information from primary sources and write about the subject.

Prior Knowledge: What prior knowledge should students have for this lesson?

− Students will need to be able to reach conclusions.
− Students will need to be able to make inferences from texts.
− Students will need to be able to work with a partner.
− Students will need to be able to complete a graphic organizer.
− Students will need to be able to write a 3-5 paragraph essay.
− Students will need to be able to write using the conventions of Standard English.

Guiding Questions: What are the guiding questions for this lesson?

− How can I organize the information obtained in chronological order?
− How can I summarize the information?
− How can I collaborate with other students to complete an assignment?
− What is a primary resource?
− How would a primary resource be used?
− What are some examples of primary resources?
− What information can be learned from a photograph?
− What details are important in a particular photograph?
− What is a conclusion?
− What does a reader do when they infer?
− How can a person infer from a photograph?
Teaching Phase: How will the teacher present the concept or skill to students?

Day 1
The teacher will begin instruction by showing the PowerPoint on primary sources and explaining the slides. For the last slide, have students either give a thumb up or down to answer each question.


Day 2
Students will need access to computers (a computer lab would be best)
The teacher will review how to search for information.
The teacher will partner students and students will work collaboratively to complete the logic puzzle on veterans. Students will use the VisualEyes pages created for the veterans to collect information about the veterans and fill out the logic puzzles with their partners. Alternatively, if teachers do not have technology, they can use the teacher packets that come with the veteran biographies and some select primary sources. Grade appropriate biographies are also available for younger grades.

Day 3
Students will work independently using the information gathered during completion of the logic puzzle to write an opinion essay on diversity in the military.

Example Prompt:
Imagine that you and your family have gone to one of the major monuments that honor military troops. Describe what it might look like and the different kinds of people you might see there. How do you think such a sight would make you feel?

Day 4 & 5
Students will exchange essays with their partners to edit their peers’ work.
Students will make corrections to their drafts.
Teacher will collect all essays.
Veteran Logic Puzzle

Use the table to help you solve the logic problem. Each square represents a possible answer. Follow the rows and columns to find the correct combination. Draw an “x” in a square that isn’t the answer.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Served in Both Korea and Vietnam</th>
<th>Served in Both WWI and WWII</th>
<th>Served in Both WWII and Korea</th>
<th>Served in a segregated unit during WWII</th>
<th>Served in WWII</th>
<th>Was a German immigrant</th>
<th>Married a woman he met in Berlin during WWII</th>
<th>Photographed celebrities post war</th>
<th>Enlisted in the Army with a false birthdate</th>
<th>Family was Jewish</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charles Leonetti</td>
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VisualEyes Pages

These are the viseyes pages created for your students to use to fill out the logic puzzle:

Charles Leonetti: http://www.viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1859
Frieda M. Lambrecht: http://viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1884
Harry Gittleman: http://viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1885
Alexander Lucas: http://viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1883
Amasa Hoyt: http://viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1881

If you would like to create your own logic puzzle using other VisualEyes pages, listed below are the
VisualEyes pages for other veterans:

Earl LaPan: http://www.viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1842
Harry Carson: http://www.viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1840
Merrill Hart McGlamery: http://www.viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1841
Peter Nadzeika: http://www.viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1846
Fred Kalinchuk: http://www.viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1848
James Moore: http://www.viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1849
David Moniac: http://www.viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1866
Terence Halligan: http://www.viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1868
William Woznak: http://www.viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1873
William Henry Oliver: http://www.viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1861
Archie Hawkins: http://www.viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1964
Teacher Packets

This assignment could also be done utilizing the teacher packets that include the veteran biography and some primary source materials. This could be an alternative for those classrooms that are not digital.

Teacher packets found here: https://vlp.cah.ucf.edu/k12.php