

Let US Teach That For You!

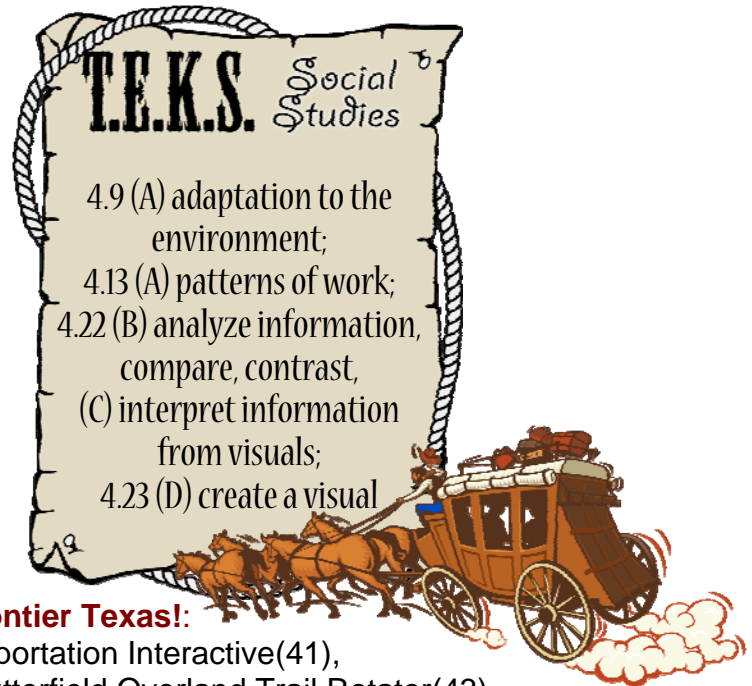
Gone to Texas: Transportation on the Frontier

Overview: This lesson offers students the opportunity to learn about different modes of transportation used on the frontier. Using the information obtained at the museum, students will create an advertisement.

Objectives

Students will:

1. Analyze different modes of transportation and/or work animals on the frontier.
2. Create an advertisement.
3. Make an inference about stagecoach travel.
4. Compare/contrast methods of transportation.



Materials

Educational Materials Provided by Frontier Texas!:

Transportation Rotator(40), Transportation Interactive(41), Spirit Guide Britt Johnson (42), Butterfield Overland Trail Rotator(43), Frontier Texas Stagecoach (51) Transportation 101 information sheet.

Materials Needed:

Unlined paper, markers, copies of "Transportation on the Frontier" (Attachment 1)

Teaching Strategy:

Pre-Visit Introduction

1. Before your tour of Frontier Texas!, brainstorm a list of modes of transportation for people as well as manufactured goods.
2. Speculate about how people and products might be transported in the future, including space travel.
3. Divide the class into 8 groups, who will be assigned to find information about:
 - a. Pulling Power
 - i. Horses
 - ii. Oxen
 - iii. Mules
 - b. People Movers
 - i. Army wagons
 - ii. Prairie schooners
 - iii. Farm wagons
 - iv. Buckboards
 - v. Surreys

Museum Instruction

1. Explore Frontier Texas!, paying close attention to the displays about transportation on the frontier:
2. Transportation Rotator (40)
3. Transportation Interactive (41)
4. Spirit guide Britt Johnson (42)
5. Butterfield Overland Trail Rotator (43)
6. Stagecoach (51)
7. Students will gather important information about the mode of transportation or work animal to which their group was assigned and record it on the prepared sheet. (Attachment 1)
8. Students should pay careful attention to the stagecoach, noting its construction, sturdiness, comfort/discomfort of riding in one for a long period of time.

Post-Visit Synthesis Activity

1. Within each group, students will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the type of transportation or work animal that they are to analyze. If more information is needed, allow students to research books or online sources.
2. Each group will prepare a billboard or poster advertising their particular wagon or work animal, recognizing its strong points and encouraging the reader to purchase it. A price, as many details as possible, and contact information should be included.
3. Poster/billboard should be prepared on unlined paper and colored with markers. Posters should be neat and appealing.

Student Assessment

Assess the finished product with credit given for details, neatness, and persuasiveness.

Enrichment Activity

Students will research the Wells Fargo company for information on the early stagecoach business. Students may discover what was transported, how often, and facts about passenger travel. www.wellsfargohistory.com is a good source.

Created for Frontier Texas! by Jeanne Wray



Transportation on the Frontier

From the displays at **FRONTIER***Texas!* find information on the mode of transportation or work animal that your group has been assigned. List several facts below.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

After carefully looking at the stagecoach at **FRONTIER***Texas!* consider the following questions:

1. One good thing about taking a trip on a stagecoach would be

2. The worst thing about a stagecoach trip would be
