

If I Had Lived Long Ago In a City in Colorado

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OVERVIEW

Students will be writing to convey information gathered about food, clothing, and shelter, as if they had truly lived long ago in a city in Colorado. Students must describe what life was like in a 19th Century city in Colorado either by writing a story or a journal entry.

STANDARDS

- Geography Standard 4: Students understand how economic, political, cultural, and social processes interact to shape patterns of human populations, interdependence, cooperation, and conflict.
- Reading and Writing Standard 2: Students write and speak for a variety of purposes and audiences.
- History Standard 1: Students understand the chronological organization of history and know how to organize events and people into major eras to identify and explain historical relationships.

OBJECTIVES

- Students will be able to explain in writing what life was like in a Colorado city of the 19th Century.
- After reading the stories (pieces) of all students in the class, students will be able to organize the stories from earlier years to later years in history (some stories may clump together in the same decade).

INQUIRY QUESTIONS

- What Colorado city are you writing about?
- What is the economic situation of the time and place you are writing about?
- Were there other historic events that you could include in your story during the same time line?
- What else of historical importance was happening in the world, including major inventions?

(Be sure to be careful about not writing in something that has not been invented yet.)

MATERIALS TO BE USED

- Writing materials
- Doing History CD-ROM disk or Website; Cities Topic, especially Food, Clothing, and Shelter photos and Large Cities photos.
- Additional history books, or pieces of historic information

PROCEDURE

After viewing, reading, and discussing the information in the Cities Topic: Food, Clothing, and Shelter, students will choose a city from the Large Cities Theme. From this, students are asked to create a story, journal entry, or a piece of persuasion that shows their understanding of the what everyday life might have been like in that city at that time. Students' own creativity will shape their work. There are many specifics from the CD-ROM disk that can be included to show how much the student has picked up about the time, events of history, fashion, inventions, etc. (Of course, depending on how much of the CD-ROM disk has been used previously, students may really go way out on this!)

ASSESSMENT

Assessment of this activity will vary, depending on the needs of the class/ teacher/student. A rubric may be created to include writing skills, speaking/ presentation of information, inclusion of amount of historical items in the piece, etc.

Teacher may also choose how the end products are displayed.