

Ride the Rockies

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OVERVIEW

Students will compare/contrast a bicycle race in Colorado from 1895 with a bicycle race of today, focusing on changes in Colorado geography (roads and trail) and advances in technology.

STANDARDS

- Reading and Writing Standard 5: Students read to locate, select, and make use of relevant information from a variety of media, reference, and technological sources.
- History Standard 2.2: Students know how to interpret primary and secondary sources of historic information.
- History Standard 4: Understand the impact of scientific and technological developments on individuals and societies.

OBJECTIVES

After completing this activity students should be able to:

- Interpret and organize historical information from primary and secondary sources.
- Describe how the recreational sport of bike racing has evolved in Colorado.
- Make hypotheses about the recreational sport 100 hundred years ago and compare and contrast that to the sport today.

INQUIRY QUESTIONS

- How long do you think bike races were in 1895? How long are they now?
- What kinds of equipment did bikers use then? Now?
- How have bikes and bike races changed since 1895?

MATERIALS TO BE USED

- CD-ROM disk or Internet website – Doing History/Keeping the Past; Cities/Community Life picture #2
- Venn diagram
- www.ridetherockies.com
- www.ctuc.asn.au/bicycles/articles

- www.pedalinghistory.com

PROCEDURE

1. Examine the picture from the “Doing History” CD-ROM disk or website and the “Ride the Rockies” website and other sites.
2. Using the information gathered, complete a Venn Diagram comparing a bike race from 1895 and the current “Ride the Rockies” bike race. Include comparisons of distance, equipment, clothing, speeds, etc.
3. As an extension activity, make some hypotheses as to how long it would take to complete the “Ride the Rockies” event using the equipment available in 1895 and explain why you think it would take that long. Explain why there were no races like “Ride the Rockies” in 1895.

ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed on the Venn Diagram turned in, based on the accuracy and pertinence of the information included.