

CLOTHING THEN AND NOW

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OVERVIEW

Students will analyze contemporary and historic photographs to develop an understanding of how clothing styles and customs have changed over time.

STANDARDS

- History Standard 2: Students know how to use the processes and resources of historical inquiry.
- History Standard 3: Students understand that societies are diverse and have changed over time.
- Reading and Writing Standard 2: Students write and speak for a variety of purposes and audiences.

OBJECTIVES

After completing this activity, students will be able to:

- Interpret information from historical photographs
- Record information gathered from photographs on a matrix
- Compare and contrast information from two matrices
- Suggest reasons for changes in clothing styles and customs over time.

INQUIRY QUESTIONS

- What kinds of clothing are the people wearing (best clothes, work clothes, etc.)?
- What do the clothes indicate about the person's economic status?
- How differences are there between men's clothing, women's clothing, children's clothing?
- Why are certain types of clothing being worn?
- Does the clothing reflect cultural or ethnic differences?

PROCEDURE

1. Doing History/Keeping the Past CD-ROM disc or website —Farming/Ranching topic; photos from Food, Clothing, and Shelter & Families, Children and Schools themes; various sequences.
2. CD-ROM Use: Students will use the CD-ROM disk or Internet site to do research on historical clothing.
3. Ask students to bring in five photographs of themselves and/or their families taken at different times in their life.
 - Give each student a copy of the Contemporary Clothing Matrix (see below) and ask him/her to complete it using information from their own photographs.
 - Ask students to share the information from their matrices and help them make generalities about clothing styles and customs in today's society.
4. Using the CD-ROM as a resource, ask students (working independently or in small groups) to find ten photographs that include people.
 - Give each student a copy of the Historical Clothing Matrix (see below) and ask him or her to complete it using the photographs found in the collection.
 - Ask students to compare and contrast the information from each of their matrices.
 - Ask them to suggest reasons for the differences in clothing styles and customs evidenced in each matrix.
5. Conduct a class discussion that leads to generalizations about clothing styles and traditions and the reasons for changes over time.

Doing History/Keeping the Past Project
Inquiry Activities

Contemporary Clothing Matrix

	Men	Women	Boys	Girls
Photo 1				
Photo 2				
Photo 3				
Photo 4				
Photo 5				

5/14/2003

This activity was created, in part, with funding from the Colorado State Historical Fund

Doing History/Keeping the Past Project
Inquiry Activities

Historical Clothing Matrix

	Men	Women	Boys	Girls
Photo 1				
Photo 2				
Photo 3				
Photo 4				
Photo 5				
Photo6				
Photo 7				
Photo 8				
Photo 9				
Photo 10				

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