

NEH Hudson River Workshop Lesson Plan 2013

Teacher: Pui-Quan Cheng

Subject: Ancient World, Social Studies

Grade Level: 6th Grade

Summary:

Students will compare and contrast the early settlement of the San Francisco Bay to that of the Nile River Valley in Ancient Egypt. This is a great lesson for students to see the relationship between their home and that of the peoples of Egypt. Students will be able to recognize the relationship people have with the waterways around them.

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Objective: Students will write a compare and contrast essay comparing the geography and early settlement of the San Francisco Bay to that of the Nile River Valley in Ancient Egypt.

Essential Questions:

How did living near the San Francisco Bay impact the lives of early settlers?

How did living in the Nile River Valley impact the lives of Ancient Egyptians?

What are the key physical features Ancient Egypt? The San Francisco Bay?

What does the Nile River Valley border? What does the San Francisco Bay border?

What were some important historical routes of the ancient Egyptians and Hebrews? Why were they important?

What were some important historical routes of the settlers and colonizers of the San Francisco Bay? Why were they important?

Standards:

6.2 Students analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the early civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Kush.

ELA: College and Career Readiness Anchor Writing Standard:

Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

Teacher Resources:

California Coastal Trail

<http://www.nps.gov/goga/historyculture/san-francisco-bay-discovery-site.htm>

[http://foundsf.org/index.php?title=SETTLEMENT_OF_SAN_FRANCISCO_\(1776\)](http://foundsf.org/index.php?title=SETTLEMENT_OF_SAN_FRANCISCO_(1776))

[http://foundsf.org/index.php?title=The_Discovery_of_San_Francisco_Bay_\(1542-1769\)](http://foundsf.org/index.php?title=The_Discovery_of_San_Francisco_Bay_(1542-1769))

http://foundsf.org/index.php?title=The_Pre-European_Landscape

<http://www.savesfbay.org/educators>

Lesson:

Do Now:

How does living near the San Francisco Bay impact your life? Students write Journal responses (5-8 min) , share if interested.

We just finished Chapter 7, “Geography and the Early Settlement of Egypt, Kush and Canaan” in our Ancient World Textbook. Who can give a short summary on the main ideas of that Chapter?

(Students should say that there were three environmental factors that influenced the settlement of ancient Egypt, Kush, and Canaan (water, topography (land shape) and vegetation (plant life). In Egypt and Kush, most people farmed the fertile Nile River Valley. In Canaan, people were nomadic.)

Hand Out and discuss:

Portola Expedition 1769 Handout Discovery of the Bay
Found SF website
Venn Diagram
“Follow an Organizational Pattern” page 754 Prentice Hall
Research Question Guide

Your job is to research the early settlement and geography of the San Francisco Bay using the resources I provide you. You will need to go online yourself and read the articles. Based on the information you read, use the Research Question Guide to help focus your research.

Complete the Venn Diagram to list the differences and similarities between the two regions.

Assessment:

Your essay must include an organizational pattern, thesis statement and supporting details. Use of transitions, comparatives and sentence variety will be evaluated. Your first draft will be developed over time. The objective is to show unity, coherence and valid content in your final draft.

Essay length guideline: Five paragraphs.

Modifications and Extra Credit:

Make a two part poster.

Turn your essay into a poster that compares and contrasts the Nile River with the San Francisco Bay. Provide illustrations, photographs or drawings. Use your main points to

write captions that state similarities and differences. Display your poster in the classroom or hallway.

Make an audio recording:

Practice reading your essay aloud several times. Then, record it using your ipod, phone, other recording device. Play the recording to your classmates. Have them evaluate your tone and content for effectiveness.

Students with IEPs, ELD students or unclassified needs:

Students may receive handouts, printouts, and other resources on an as needed basis.

San Francisco Bay Early Settlers Research Question Guide
Answer these questions to help guide your research:

What was the topography and vegetation like when the settlers first laid eyes on the San Francisco Bay?

How was the climate in the Bay Area during the 18th century?

What were settlers or colonizers looking for as they entered the Bay?