

Our Hill Our Story: Understanding the Community Through Pop-Up Museums

Unit Plan Outline: What is a Pop-Up Museum

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Length of lesson: 4 (30-40 minute segments)

Overview

- **Description:** This unit will examine how various people perceive a community. It will examine the role of object as symbols of the community. It will introduce the concept of a Pop-Up Museum and instruct students in the creation of one to represent themselves and their community.
- **Essential question:**

How can object, artifacts and landscapes reflect aspects of individual and collective identity?

How do individuals view their environment? Are there multiple points of view?

What are symbols how do objects become symbolic?

How can historical artifacts connect us to the past?

What is a Pop-Up Museum? How can a community use it?

Educational Standards

8.1.9/12. B. Synthesize and evaluate historical sources.

8.2.9/12 B. Identify and evaluate primary documents, material artifacts and historic sites important in Pennsylvania history from 1890 to Present.

8.2.9/12 C. Identify and evaluate how continuity and change have influenced Pennsylvania history from the 1890s to Present.

Materials Used in this Lesson Plan

Student Handouts 1-4

Pop-Up Museum PowerPoint

Notecards or Post-Its

Labeling materials for Activity 3

Vocabulary

Artifact - an object made by a human being, typically an item of cultural or historical interest.

Audience - the people that event, such as a play, movie, concert, or meeting.

Collection A group of objects that have something in common, such as the owner, type of object, or location.

Community - a group of people with something in common, such as having a particular interest, attitude, or goals, living in the same neighborhood, or attending the same school.

Exhibit - an object or collection of objects on public display in a museum.

Form - a shape of a person, place, or object

Function - the purpose of a person, place, or object

Identity - a sense of self that reflects qualities, such as personality, interests, and culture. Group identity reflects the identity of more than one, such as a class or neighborhood.

Labeling -The process of preparing and affixing labels to accompany objects. These labels are used to identify and show the significance of an object.

Landscape - a place that can be an exterior space, such as an outdoor environment, or an interior space, such as the corner of a drawer.

Museum an open public institution that acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits, for purposes of study, education and enjoyment, the tangible and intangible evidence of people and their environment.

Object - a material thing that can be seen and touched

Pop-Up Museum - temporary exhibit created by the people who show up to participate. It works by choosing a theme and venue and then inviting people to bring an object on-topic to share.

Provenance the history and ownership of an item from the time of its discovery or creation to the present day, from which authenticity and ownership is determined.

Symbol - a thing that represents or stands for something else, especially a material object representing something abstract.

Theme - the subject of a talk, a piece of writing, a person's thoughts, or an exhibition; a topic.

Venue - the place where something happens, especially an organized event such as a concert, conference, or sports event.

Evaluation/Assessment for Measurable Results

Activity 1 - Worksheet & Poem Presentations

Activity 2 - Matching Activity & Completed Worksheet

Activity 3 - Worksheet & Completed Label

Activity 4 - Completed Essay & Completed Exhibit

Extension and Enrichment Activities

Classroom Pop-Up Museum

Participate in Our Hill, Our Home Pop-Up Exhibit

Lesson Plan

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Extensions
Starter	Introduce the Unit as explained in the Background Information Document	Show the Students various photos both contemporary and historical ask them about their impression of the locations.	Present the students with an object of interest and tell the story behind it. Explain how objects can gain meaning.	Review the week's materials. Remind the students of the steps of the writing process.	
Objective	Students will learn about spaces and how they can reflect aspects of individual and collective identity.	By looking at spaces and objects in the community students will learn that the individuals can view their environment in many different ways. They will also gain an understanding of the way we instill objects with symbolic meaning.	By looking at personal objects and designing museum labels the class will transform their personal objects into a representation of their classroom.	Students will brainstorm then write a reflective essay adding summative element to the project. They will use this essay to identify an object that they believe reflects their vision of the Hill District. The students will then create their own pop-up museum and be encouraged to take part in the Our Hill, Our Home, Our Stories Exhibition.	

Task	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Starter 2) Collaborative Community Poetry Activity 3) Share Poems Review Concepts 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Starter 2) Community Perspectives & Symbolism Activity 3) Share Reflections 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Starter 2) Writing Object Labels Activity 3) Share Objects and Labels with class 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Starter 2) Reflective Essay Activity 3) Peer Edit Essays. 4) Present essays in small groups 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Create and enjoy the classroom pop-up museum. 2) Attend Our Hill Home Pop-Up Museum.
Assignment	<p>Using words or short phrases, students write two observations on an index card, which are the first things that come to mind when thinking about your community. Swap your card with the person next to you and transform both of their words or phrases into one sentence. Break up into groups of 4-5 people and arrange your sentences into a poem. Share the compiled poem with the rest of the class.</p>	<p>Think about a place or an object that reminds you of your community. What are the thoughts and feelings that you associate with that object? This is what we call Symbolism.</p>	<p>Students will select an object from your backpack. How does the personal objects reflect their identity? Students will be instructed on proper construction of a museum label and asked to label their object. The objects and labels will be collected and put on display. The class will take part in a gallery walk to examine the objects of their classmates. How does becoming part of a group exhibit change the meaning of the personal objects? How does the exhibit reflect both self and group identity?</p>	<p>Think about your community the good and the bad, the special and the everyday. If you had to describe the Hill District in one sentence what would it be?</p> <p>Think about an object you own that you associate with the Hill District past present or future. What is it? Where did it come from? How does it make you feel?</p>	
Extra					