WebQuest Description: This WebQuest is designed to provide background information for students about "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck. It will also be used for during and post reading activities.

Grade Level: 9-12

Curriculum: English / Language Arts

Keywords: Of Mice and Men John Steinbeck

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Introduction

This WebQuest has been created as an introduction to the WebQuest form of learning. It is based on the book, "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck. We will be traveling to the time and setting of the book to have a better understanding of the book. We will explore the Great Depression and look at the area where this story takes place. So if you've got your denim trousers and denim coats, let's go to another place and time.

Tasks

Tasks you will be working on include: Researching the Great DepressionLearning about Salinas ValleyMaintaining a vocabulary log. Learning how the book got it's name. Learning about John Steinbeck.

Process

TASK 1 Background: This novel takes place following the Great Depression. Use the following web sites to gain a better understanding about that time period. During the information search, complete the following information log. http://history1900s.about.com/od/1930s/p/greatdepression.htm1. What is the significance of October 29, 1929?2. During depressions, farmers were usually safe from the at least feed themselves. What two things had an impact on the farmers on the Great Plains? The setting for "Of Mice and Men" is Salinas Valley. Visit this web site to identify crops that are grown in Salinas Valley. http://www.seemonterey.com/regions/salinas-valley/3. List two crops that are now grown in Salinas Valley. a. b.4. Identify two activities to do if we were to take a field trip to Salinas Valley. a. b.

5. Are there other things you would like to know about this time period? TASK 2 Reading: Use this link to learn how the book got the title. http://wiki.answers.com/Q/Why_did_Steinbeck_choose_the_title_%27Of_Mice_and_Men%27 Do you think it was a good choice? What would you have called this book? Link to this web site and provide 5 facts about John Steinbeck. http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/literature/laureates/1962/steinbeck-bio.html How do you think Steinbeck's background influenced his writings? GROUP ACTIVITY – SMARTBOARD http://www.worldburnsclub.com/poems/translations/554.html Link to this page to read the poem that Steinbeck got the name for this book from.

Evaluation

Your score will be based on the following rubric. If you have questions please feel free to ask.
You have completed all the activities for this WebQuest. Please place all of your work in the folder provided. Your final activity will be to write in your reader connection notebook. The topic is: Do you agree with the ending of the story? If this was your story how would you have ended it?