Of Mice and Men

WebQuest Description: Students will research The Great Depression and Migrant Workers. This quest will allow students to answer questions and make inferences regarding John Steinbeck's novel "Of Mice and Men."

Grade Level: 9-12
Curriculum: English / Language Arts
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Introduction

To allow everyone to become familiar with information regarding the novel study of "Of Mice and Men", everyone will complete a WebQuest. During your quest, you will read a brief biography on John Steinbeck, research the Great Depression, learn about Migrant Workers, and be exposed to the living conditions and normal life of Americans during this period.

Tasks

After reading this information provided, please go under the "Evaluation" tab. Under this tab you will see 6 questions that you must answer while completing your quest. You may divide these questions up among your group members or everyone may work collectively. Make sure you read the instructions carefully. You are to answer these questions on a loose sheet of paper. You are to write in complete sentences, unless otherwise specified. Make sure everyone's name is on the paper. Under the "Process" tab, you will begin your quest. You are to follow each link and read/skim the information provided on the website. Answer the questions as you go. Enjoy!

Process

THE GREAT DEPRESSION: The Great Depression Living Conditions Interesting Facts MIGRANT WORKERS: Migrant Workers Pictures of Migrant Workers JOHN STEINBECK: John Steinbeck Biography Use the statements on your Anticipation Guide, too.

Evaluation

Answer the following questions on a loose sheet of paper. This will be turned in.1. What type of events and circumstances do you predict that Steinbeck's characters will be faced with based on what you know now about Steinbeck's book? What were citizens in the time of the Great Depression dealing with? How were their lives changed?2. What is a Migrant Worker? Tell me about an average day for them.3. Find some facts concerning the Great Depression that you believe will be central to understanding the novel. (You may list these.)4. What happened to cause The Great Depression?5. Tell me what you found to be most interesting about the Great Depression or the Migrant Workers.6. Pay special attention to the living conditions at the time. What would a normal home look like for Americans? A normal meal setting?

Conclusion

Now that you have completed your quest, you should have gained new information regarding The Great Depression, Migrant Workers, and John Steinbeck. We will be jumping into "Of Mice and Men" promptly. Our main focus will be identifying how Steinbeck introduces and develops the characters throughout the novel.