

Under the Quilt of Night

WebQuest Description: This is a story about a girl who escapes slavery through the underground railroad.

Grade Level: 3-5

Curriculum: Social Studies

Keywords: Slavery, The Underground Railroad

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Introduction

Imagine being a slave. You wouldn't have any rights; you would be expected to work from the time the sun came up until it went down. You would be treated worse than a dog and expected to call your owner master. Most slaves were sold far away from their families to prevent them from working together to fight back or escape.

Tasks

You are a journalist of a big time newspaper in your town. After reading "Under the Quilt of Night" by Deborah Hopkins, you have decided that people need to know more about it. Your task is to research slavery and the underground railroad. You will write a five paragraph essay describing slavery and the underground railroad. You must include a visual showing the route of at least one path people used to escape slavery. Some other things you may want to mention in your paper include the jobs slaves had, how they were treated, and how they escaped and went to freedom. Remember you are the journalist, it is your job to inform the community of what happened back then. In the end, everyone will present their findings and we will decide on the top 3 we will send to the actual paper to be published! Work hard and have fun!

Process

Instructions

- Research the Underground Railroad, read a couple more stories from our class library and conduct research using the links I have provided below.
- Think about a story you could create as a journalist. Remember, when writing newspaper articles a reader is hooked by the title and the first few sentences. How will you hook your reader?
- Download the story outline document.
- First complete the outline.
- Pictures-draw, trace, paint, color, use real pictures, newspapers, internet...etc. This should be done by the student.
- Write neatly or type
- Check spelling/grammar
- If you have any questions; ask.
- Have Fun!

Evaluation

You will be evaluated by the rubric below. The project is worth 100 pts, an additional 10 pts will be given based on presenting to the class.

| Category and Score | | | | | Score |
|----------------------|--|--|---|--|--------|
| Clarity and Neatness | article is hard to read. Student didn't write complete sentences. There is no order to the article | article is hard to read but is written with some organization. | article is easy to read and it is mostly organized and written with complete sentences. | Article is easy to read and is well organized and written with complete sentences. | 50 pts |

| Category and Score | | | | | Score |
|--------------------|---|--|--|---|--------|
| Spelling & Grammar | Several spelling and/or grammatical errors on the storyboard. | One spelling or grammatical error on the storyboard. | No spelling or grammatical mistakes on a storyboard with little text. | No spelling or grammatical mistakes on a storyboard with lots of text. | 5 pts |
| Required Elements | One or more required elements was missing from the story. | Story included all required elements. | Story included all required elements and one additional element. | Story included all required elements as well as a few additional elements. | 25 pts |
| Research | It is apparent that the student did not research the topic further and did not include it in story. | Student did little research. | Student did some research on the topic and included some aspects in story. | Student clearly researched and understood the topic and included it in their story. | 20 pts |
| | | | | Total Score | 100 |

Conclusion

Congratulations! You are finished with this assignment, but never stop learning about it. Slavery had a huge impact on America. It was supposed to be the land of the free. The Europeans came here to escape being repressed. They wanted the freedom of religion, to get rid of taxes, etc. Then they brought people from Africa to the America and treated them like a lower species because of the color of their skin. Think about some things as you continue to learn about history. If you were alive then how would you have acted in situations? Was your family affected by slavery? Ask your grandparents if they remember slavery or segregation and what their experience was with it. Did you know there are still people being treated as slaves in other countries still today? Keep learning! Here are some quotes from Dr. Martin Luther King, one of the greatest speakers of the time (he was black):

When we let freedom ring, when we let it ring from every tenement and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old spiritual, "Free at last, free at last. Thank God Almighty, we are free at last."-- "I Have a Dream" speech, August 28, 1963

We will have to repent in this generation not merely for the hateful words and actions of the bad people but for the appalling silence of the good people.-- "Letter from Birmingham Jail," April 16, 1963

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy. The true neighbor will risk his position, his prestige and even his life for the welfare of others.-- Strength in Love (1963)

Teacher Page

I have attached a lesson plan to follow when teaching this web quest to your students. Depending on the amount of time you have to teach this topic, you may want to read numerous stories to your students similar to "The Quilt of the Night". In the lesson plans I have included ways to help your struggling and advanced learners. Be the teacher that makes history interesting, be the teacher that takes the time to make it fun!

Standards

Credits

Other