



MULTIPLE OBJECT STUDY - HIGH SCHOOL

Written By: Joy Huntington

Enduring Understanding

How do objects help us understand the story of Wisconsin?

Essential Questions

- Why do we save things?
- What makes the things we save important?
- What questions can objects help us answer?
- How do we unlock the meanings of an object?

Wisconsin Standards for Social Studies

Social Studies Inquiry Practices and Processes

- Construct meaningful questions that initiate an inquiry. **(SS.Inq1)**
- Gather and evaluate sources. **(SS.Inq2)**
- Develop claims using evidence to support reasoning. **(SS.Inq3)**
- Communicate and critique conclusions. **(SS.Inq4)**

Behavioral Science

- Assess the role that human behavior and cultures play in the development of social endeavors (Anthropology). **(SS.BS3)**
- Examine the progression of specific forms of technology and their influence within various societies. **(SS.BS4)**

Economics

- Analyze how decisions are made and interactions occur among individuals, households, and firms/businesses (Microeconomics). **(SS.Econ2)**

Geography

- Evaluate the relationship between identity and place. **(SS.Geog4)**
- Evaluate the relationship between humans and the environment. **(SS.Geog4)**

History

- Using historical evidence for determining cause and effect. **(SS.Hist1)**
- Analyze, recognize, and evaluate patterns of continuity and change over time and contextualization of historical events. **(SS.Hist2)**
- Connect past events, people, and ideas to the present, use different perspectives to draw conclusions, and suggest current implications. **(SS.Hist3)**
- Evaluate a variety of primary and secondary sources to interpret the historical context, intended audience, purpose, and/or author's point of view (Historical Methodology). **(SS.Hist4)**

Political Science

- Examine and interpret rights, privileges, and responsibilities in society. **(SS.PS2)**
- Develop and employ skills for civic literacy. **(SS.PS3)**

WISCONSIN 101: www.wi101.wisc.edu

Collecting, Preserving, and Sharing Stories since 1846

816 State Street Madison, Wisconsin 53706

wisconsinhistory.org



Educational Goal Assessment

- Identify the role objects play in representing history and people's stories.
- Analyze how a group of objects recount history and stories?
- Compare and contrast how people of different abilities experience museum exhibits.
- Evaluate the importance of an object.
- Interpret the importance of the object through story telling.

Suggested Performance Task

Students can show achievement through completion of these outcomes:

- Class discussion and activities on:
 - Activity #1, A Larger Story
 - Have students visit a local museum to evaluate an exhibit. Their focus will be on the benefits of using multiple objects to tell a story as opposed to one object. After their visit the students will write a paper detailing the story that is told through the objects in the exhibition. (Have the students use the guide, A Larger Story, below to evaluate the exhibit)
 - Activity #2, Creating an Exhibition
 - The class will create an exhibition from the objects that reflect their class. Each student is responsible for bringing two or three objects that represent them and/or their class. The students need to create an Exhibition title, define a theme, create an introductory label, and create subthemes as a class. Each student is then responsible for selecting the objects that best tell the story of their interviewee and creating object labels and group label for their selected objects. (Use the attached sources to understand the different types of museum labels.)
 - Activity #3, Creating an Experience for All
 - Have students use an object from Activity #2, Their Story Objectified, to rewrite an object label for hearing and visually impaired visitors. Think about how a visual or hearing impaired person can best experience your class's exhibition. First students will evaluate their current exhibit and think of ways to rewrite or rework their objects and exhibit for those with hearing and visual difficulties. (Use PowerPoint to present information on Museum labels and use the handout below, Creating Labels for All, to guide the students on this activity.)
 - Have the class put their exhibition up for the public.



A Larger Story

Directions: Use the guide to evaluate an exhibit at a local museum. Through this guide you will write a paper on how the museum retells a story from history using multiple objects.

1. Identify the museum and up to three key objects in the exhibit.
2. Does the exhibit tell a story? What is the main theme of the story? (Is it about a person, family, event, place, political movement, or economic issue?)
3. How did the museum present the objects? (Are the objects behind glass where you cannot touch them? Are all the objects labeled? Are they individually displayed or set in a scene?) Was it in a manner that supported the theme?
4. Identify up to three objects and how the museum used them to support the theme and tell a story. (Be specific in identifying what aspect of the theme/story the object supports.)
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
5. Identify any object that is unnecessary or does not fit the theme and story. Why do you think that was included in the exhibit?
 - a.
 - b.
6. Identify at least one object you believe should be in the exhibit? Why do you think it could help tell the story?
 - a.
 - b.



Creating an Experience for All

Directions: Use this guide and the information from your class to rethink one of your object labels for an object from your assignment, Their Story Objectified for hearing and visual impaired visitors.

1. Reviewing your labels list two obstacles that hinder a person with a hearing or visual impairment to experience one of your objects and exhibition. (Select one of the impairments)
 - a.
 - b.
2. Brainstorm two ideas to fix each issue you identified above. And identify how they address the issues you listed above.
 - a. Issue one
 - i.
 - ii.
 - b. Issue two
 - i.
 - ii.
3. Select one of the strategies from your brainstorming session and rework one aspect of your exhibition to enable a hearing or visual impaired person to experience your object. (Identify your target audience.)