

Lesson Plan 4

Title: Treaty Talk

Grade Levels: High school

Subjects: U.S. History, Multicultural Interactions

Duration: 6-8 class periods

Goals:

To help students recognize the conflict and interactions that went on between two diverse people in U.S. history. (The early settlers and the indigenous people)

Materials: A map with the trails of the west in settlers time. Readings on Indian tribes of the west, on the migration of settlers to the west and on food of the indigenous people.

Objectives:

To analyze and recognize the impact of westward movement of settlers to indigenous people's homeland. To be aware of how such actions were able to take place and how it effected relations then and now. To learn how negotiation took place and pick up on some the skills of negotiation.

Procedure:

Advanced preparation. Have students identify and become aware of the trails that Settlers took during there trips west and the areas where indigenous people called home. Also, have students gather in groups or individually to research some of these effected Native American tribes. Ask students to put themselves in the shoes of both parties. What was the motivation of the settlers? What would it be like to be forced out of your homes and to move like the Indians?

Create a treaty negotiation simulation. Divide students into 2 groups. Group one being the settlers and there representative that talked with the Native Americans. Group two being a Native American tribe. Group two must determine there needs for a reservation site and Group one must work to figure out there settlement needs. Each group communicates through the representative in the settlers group. Each side must try to move forward to make an agreement and treaty. After the treaty is decided upon put it in writing. Serve traditional pioneer and Native American foods to seal the treaty. (At also gives the students a goal to negotiate.)

Assessment:

Have the students follow up with a report on how the negotiations worked out and what strategies they group they were in took. Have them also write about and discuss with the class their own feelings to the outcome of the treaty the class made and how that might translate to attitudes of Native Americans today.