



A Lesson on Traveling with Lewis and Clark by Katherine Henderson

Grade Level: Grade 4

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour

Lesson Keywords: Reading, Writing, A Lesson on Traveling with Lewis and Clark

Lesson Description:

The goal of this lesson is to incorporate reading, writing and comprehension skills. Students must read the passage and be able to answer specific questions in regards to how the author viewed his personal journey with Lewis and Clark. Also what traveling was like back during that time period. They will also write a short essay about the story describing his travels and how he felt about them.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.1: Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.1: Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.1b: Provide reasons that are supported by facts and details.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.4a: Use context (e.g., definitions, examples, or restatements in text) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

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Lesson Content: Book/Story/Reading Passage

Instructions: Please read the following reading passage as many times as needed (aloud and silent) before starting to go through other lesson pages. Understanding the content of this passage is very important since the lesson activities will be all about this content. Feel free to print the passage if needed.

Traveling with Lewis and Clark

by

Content: It has been several months since we left St. Louis. Before we left, I said goodbye to my family and told them it would be at least a year before I came back. I was going on a great journey to the ocean with Lewis and Clark.

If I had known then how difficult the trip would be I would have stayed home. Every day we woke up early, and then we would row and row up the river. We only traveled about three miles a day. We were going hundreds of miles.

The first week of the trip was exciting. I thought it would be such an adventure. I fell off the boat, but luckily the other men helped me climb back up. After that I was very careful. But it still was exciting.

We had brought food with us, but we reached the end of our supply rather quickly. We needed more food, so we had to stop to get it. There were no stores along the way, though. We had to hunt and fish to get the food. Then we would make a fire to cook it. At night we slept on the ground. It was getting so cold that I worried.

Lewis and Clark told us we would camp here for the winter. They said that the snow and ice would make it too hard to travel. That was weeks ago. We made a camp with tents, and then we hunted to get more food. We met some Native Americans who helped us. They showed us where to hunt and they even gave us some food they had grown themselves.

We are all so very cold. We go to get wood every day so we can keep the fire burning. Thankfully, we have enough water. That is the one thing we can get without any trouble because we have camped along the river so we are near water.

They say it will be a few more weeks before we move. After that, it will be time to travel once again. I wish I could turn back. I want to go home to my family, but I made a promise. I said I would do this job. But I would like to leave.

When I do return home, I will stay there. I never will travel this far again. I will get a job so that I will no longer need to hunt and fish to get food. I will buy it at the store. I will never have to camp outside again.

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Task 1: Vocabulary

Instructions: Please complete the following vocabulary activity by choosing the correct meaning of each word selected from the passage and use of each word correctly in a sentence.

Q: 1 WordPhrase: Journey **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: "I was going on a great journey to the ocean with Lewis and Clark." What does the word "journey" mean in this sentence?

- A:** To stay in the same place.
- B:** To travel from one place to another.
- C:** A specific amount of time.
- D:** A Goal to complete something.

Question: Which one of the sentence below uses the word "journey" correctly?

- A:** It was a long journey to the castle to save the princess.
 - B:** Journeys are red and blue.
 - C:** We had a journey for dinner.
 - D:** We went to Journeys in the mall to buy shoes.
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Q: 2 WordPhrase: Difficult **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The author states "If I had known then how difficult the trip would be I would have stayed home." What is the correct definition of the word difficult?

- A:** easy to do.
- B:** simple
- C:** not easy, or very hard.
- D:** calm.

Question: Which one of the sentence below uses the word "difficult" correctly?

- A:** A difficult knife cuts well.
 - B:** The moon and stars are difficult.
 - C:** A table can be difficult.
 - D:** The math problem was very difficult to solve.
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Q: 3 WordPhrase: Adventure **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: "I thought it would be such an adventure." What is the correct definition of adventure?

- A:** An exciting activity.
- B:** Something thats boring.
- C:** A trip to the grocery store.
- D:** Petting a animal

Question: Which one of the sentence below uses the word "adventure" correctly?

- A:** Sitting in a classroom is an adventure.
 - B:** I went to Great Adventures.
 - C:** We are going on a adventure to explore a forrest.
 - D:** Sea creatures are a adventure.
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Q: 4 WordPhrase: Supply **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: We had brought food with us, but we reached the end of our supply rather quickly. what is the correct definition of the word "supply"?

- A:** Something needed or wanted.
- B:** A book.
- C:** A furry animal.
- D:** A map of the world.

Question: Which one of the sentence below uses the word "supply" correctly?

- A:** He supplied a surprise for us.
 - B:** We have a large supply of food to last us our whole camping trips.
 - C:** A chair is a great supply.
 - D:** We all supply.
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Task 2: Forum Discussion

Instructions: This discussion forum will have questions for students to respond. Read the posted questions, and respond to each. Students are responsible for posting one initial and and two peer responses for each topic.

1 - If I had known then how difficult the trip would be I would have stayed home
why did the author say If I had known then how difficult the trip would be I would stayed home?

2 - Traveling with Lewis and Clark

What made Traveling with Lewis and Clark hard?

3 - I never will travel this far again

What lessons did the author learn about himself?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write and post here 150 words essay on what traveling was like for the author. Make sure to provide specific examples.

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