

Picturing the Past Lesson Plan

Anticipation Guide: As a class, read the children's book "Everybody's Revolution." Discuss different roles and experiences of different groups of people during the revolution. Explain that many times in history we focus just on the generals and politicians and miss the picture of life for the average person. Today we will be looking at regular people and their experiences.

Procedure:

- Split the class into interest-based groups to research and read more about a specific groups and their experience during the Revolutionary War.
- Give each student a [graphic organizer](#) based on which group they are in to record their findings.
- Give each student 1-3 articles to read about their topic and gather information from.
- Ask students to work individually for 15 minutes before sharing their answers and ideas with their group. Each group member should then pick 1-2 areas of focus from the graphic organizer.
- Jigsaw the students to share what they learned about their group's experiences.
- Give the students access to the [Picturing the Past google doc](#). Each class will need to have its own doc. Have each student record his/her answer in as few words as possible on the google doc and then find a clipart picture to represent the answer. (If your students have experience with google docs this is an easy homework assignment. If not, you will probably have to skip the jigsaw and walk them through it the first time.)
- Share out next time.

Extensions: Have advanced students locate their own sources and/or research a group not listed. (e.g. immigrant groups: chinese, Irish, Italian, Mexican etc.; mentally and physically disabled; orphans)

Repeat this model a few times a year with each major unit and at the end of the year each student can create a group-centered look through history. Example: [Picturing the Past: Women in U.S. history](#)

Adapted from Phillip Niemeyer's ["Picturing the past 10 years"](#)