

Boston Tea Party

Lesson Plan
Language Arts: Grades 2-5

Day 1:

Fluency: Print out the words to the Boston Tea Party a copy is attached. There are 162 words. Test each student for a cold read before they hear the song. Record the number of words correct in one minute. Print the book for each student.

Vocabulary:

guest, invite, serve, colonies, revolutionary, taste, harbor, guarantee, pour, certainty

Sort the words alphabetically and have the students write a definition working in groups of two. Use dictionary.com for the ones they do not know. Each student needs to create cards with the word on the front and the definition on the back. Students take the cards home to study.

Home-School Connection: Highlight the high frequency words on each page.

Directions for the parents: Have your child read the highlighted words as fast as they can on each page as follows: Monday page 1, Tuesday page 2, etc. Use the timed checklist to record the time it takes your child to read the page each day. The goal is to improve speed and accuracy.

Day 2:

Fluency: Students listen to The Boston Tea Party on the computer and read the words silently 3 times. Then they sing along at least 3 times. Talk to the students about expression and accuracy.

Vocabulary:

Sort the words by parts of speech. Sort them into nouns, verbs, other. Have students use each noun in a sentence and skip a line beneath each sentence. Collect the papers and keep for day 3.

Day 3:

Fluency: Students listen to The Boston Tea Party on the computer and read the words silently 3 times. Then they sing along at least 3 times. As a whole group, have them try to sing it with the fluency sheets to see if they are learning the tune. Talk to them about pitch and trying to match their voice with the song.

Vocabulary:

Pass out the noun papers from Day 2 and do a lesson on pronouns. Introduce the pronouns: I, he, she, we, it, you, they, them, and us. Have the students find the pronouns, I, it, and they, in the story. As a whole group, identify the antecedent of each pronoun in the story. Pass out the papers from Day 2. Help them rewrite their first sentence replacing the noun with a pronoun. When they are ready, let them complete the rest of the sentences individually.

Art Connection:

Have the students draw a picture of the harbor, including the whale and the tea, etc.

Day 4:

Fluency: Students listen to The Boston Tea Party on the computer and read the words silently 3 times. Then they sing along at least 3 times. Have the students work in groups of 2 or 3 and practice reading the story. Have them write 4 facts about the Boston Tea Party. (Year-1773, Sons of Liberty, Boston Harbor, taxes, etc.)

Vocabulary:

Have the students find and list all of the verbs in the story. (got, thrown, was, were, pouring, like, levied, threw, didn't, serve, poured, guarantee, lived, turned, be, remember, happened, had, taste). Sort the verbs into action verbs and verbs of being. You can also do a lesson on verb tense, and descriptive and interesting verbs. Have students use 5 of their verbs in sentences.

Social Studies Connection:

Depending on the level of your students, read books and do research on the historical event, the Boston Tea Party.

Day 5:

Fluency: Students listen to The Boston Tea Party on the computer and read the words silently 3 times. Then they sing along at least 3 times. Have the students practice the fluency timings with a partner so they can see their progress.

Vocabulary:

Do an assessment on nouns, verbs, and pronouns by choosing 5 sentences from the story and underlining a word to be identified as either a noun, verb, or pronoun.

Writing Connection:

Have the students choose a side, the colonists or the King and defend their position.

Day 6-10:

Fluency: Students listen to The Boston Tea Party on the computer and read the words silently 3 times. Then they sing along at least 3 times. Begin the Fluency Post test- Use the Word document from the Pre-test. The difference is amazing.

Vocabulary:

Have the students work in pairs to study and check the vocabulary words. You can make a memory match game with the words and the parts of speech, or the definitions, or a sentence with a missing word.

Science Connection:

Have the students research what kinds of whales leave near Boston Harbor. They can make a whale project using a shoebox to create their harbor.

Grand Finale: Have a Tea Party. Use your imagination!

Note:

Make sure the students read and listen to the story 3 times everyday. Send the books home for practice at home also.

Do your final fluency check and vocabulary check and you will be amazed.

Math Connection: (These can be used at any time during the lesson)

You can make many math connections. Students can study the migratory habits of whales and use subtraction to compare the distances traveled.

You can make a fun sheet of whale math with basic facts about whales. For example, How many eyes would 6 whales have? You could do a scale drawing of the map with 1 inch = 1 foot. You could calculate how much tea it takes to make a certain number of barrels. You could multiply tea barrels to practice mult. facts. You could label the colonists dressed as Indians with ordinal numbers and place them in position. Just think about the skills your students need to practice.