

Geography of the British Atlantic World

Lesson #3

Teaching Thesis and Guiding Questions- What is the geography of the British Atlantic World?

Time Frame- one (60-minute) lesson

Learning Objectives-

The student will:

- use geographic terminology when referring to maps of the Atlantic
- define the Atlantic Basin
- identify map projections in historical maps
- explore historical maps to generate geographical concepts about the absolute and relative location of sites
- develop historical understanding by listening to and responding to narratives.

Materials-

1. Internet Access, preferably through a lab with projection capabilities
2. blank map of the Atlantic Basin
3. colored pencils
4. straight edges

Materials: Materials are accessible through www.portaportal.com (Guest Access: whysugar)

Topic: Lesson #2 B Geography of the British Atlantic World

Focus-

1. Establish readiness for exploration by posing the questions that ask students to recall activities from the past lessons.
2. Generate conversation that will prepare students to further their skills as historians.
3. Remind students that a historian is one who engages in the exploration, discussion, and interpretation of historical ideas.

Teach: This activity is an independent internet activity. It is assumed that students are comfortable using web based activities for inquiry. Guidance in locating, using, and manipulating the Portaportal site will ensure that students meet the objectives for this lesson. The teacher should model the process for accessing the portaportal site.

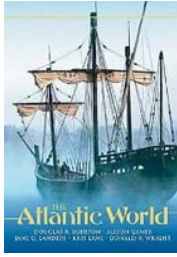
Activity: “Geography of the British Atlantic World” This is an activity intended for partnership.

Extension: Students may extend their knowledge of historical maps by examining two additional maps, “17th Century Dutch Map” and “The Atlantic Ocean, ca. 1720,” which are located in the Lesson #2B section of the portaportal site. A map outline of the Atlantic Basin is suitable for creating lines that bridge islands and continents in the British Atlantic World.

Name:

Date:

<http://www.diaspora.uiuc.edu/news0908/Egerton.jpg>



The Geography of the British Atlantic World: 1500-1800

Guiding Question- What was the geography of the British Atlantic World between the years 1500-1800? Work with a partner to complete this assignment.

The sites for this web-based activity are located through www.portaportal.com

User Name: WhySugar

Password: WhySugar

Map Skills and terminology:

Review basic terminology using “Definitions-Basics for looking at maps.”

Record terms that are unfamiliar to you in your Historian’s Toolbox.

West Indies: Open each the “17th Century Map of North America.”

View the map from the American Memories collection. Respond to the following questions briefly, using bullets to record your responses. Place your responses in your Historian’s Toolbox.

Title-

1. According to the title, what is the purpose of the map?
2. Does the title tell you anything about for whom the map was drawn?
3. Why might that be important?

Date-

1. Is the map dated? If not, why?
2. What was happening at the time that might influence what is shown on the map?
3. Is a compass rose or arrow present?
4. How is the map oriented?

Key-

1. What symbols are used on the map?
2. What do these symbols mean?
3. How valuable was the information on the map? Give reasons to support your ideas.

Scale –

1. How much distance in reality does a particular segment on the map represent?
2. Why was this scale chosen?
3. Consider the amount of area the mapmaker wished to show versus the amount that was actually shown. What might account for the difference between each map?
4. What might account for these difference perspectives?