

Lesson Plan 12 - “Notable West Virginian” Research Project

Objective(s) for the Lesson

SS.0.08.05.11 Research and critique the role of ethnic and racial minorities, men, women and children in West Virginia who have made significant contributions to our history in the public and/or private sectors; choose the person you believe made the most significant contribution and explain your choice (e.g., statehood, abolition, education, industry, literature, government).

Time Frame

250 minutes

Title(s) and Page Number(s) in the *West Virginia Encyclopedia* which provide content background for the teacher

The *West Virginia Encyclopedia* contains hundreds of biographies which are arranged alphabetically according to the last name of the individual.

Title(s) and Page Number(s) in the *West Virginia Encyclopedia* which provide instructional opportunities for the students

(optional)

Same as above.

Materials Needed

Resource materials from school library or internet
The *West Virginia Encyclopedia*
“Notable West Virginian Research Criteria” handout

Procedures/Strategies

- Each student will obtain information about a notable West Virginian via the school library, the computer lab (internet), an interview, or other reference source. The “Notable West Virginian Research Criteria” handout will serve as a guide for the student’s research.
- After research is completed, each student will submit the completed handout to the teacher.
- Students will convey their research findings to the rest of the class by participating in panel discussions. Three to four students at a time will form a panel and “be” their respective “notable West Virginian.” Each must answer (without notes) ten random questions chosen from the categories listed. The questions will be asked by the student audience. In addition, each student will be given the opportunity to relate an interesting fact or experience – “something you may not know about me” – regarding their chosen West Virginian.
- There should be no duplication when students are choosing their person for the “Notable West Virginian” project.

Assessment

The teacher can use the “Notable West Virginian” handout submitted by each student as a rubric for evaluation.

One point awarded for each topic that is completed (20 points)
Two points awarded for each correct answer (20 points)

One to five points awarded for a “prop”	(5 points)
One to five points (or bonus) awarded for costume	(5 points)
Total for project	(50 points)

Supporting Resources

West Virginia: A History of an American State by Vicki Wood

“Famous West Virginians” website: www.members.aol.com/jeff560/wv-fam.html

Goldenseal magazine

West Virginia Cultural Center website: www.wvculture.org

Notable West Virginians Research Project

Directions: Use the *West Virginia Encyclopedia*, the internet, texts, an interview or other reference(s) to obtain information about a notable West Virginian. You will “be” this person and serve on a panel of “Notable West Virginians.” You are expected to answer ten questions chosen from the categories listed on the “Notable West Virginian Research Criteria” handout. (The completed handout will be submitted to the teacher prior to the interview.) Questions are randomly chosen by the student audience.

Points will be awarded as follows:

Completed handout	(1 pt. each)	total:	20
Interview questions	(2 pts. each)	total:	20
“Prop”	(1-5 pts.)	total:	5
Costume	(1-5 pts.)	total:	5
			TOTAL: 50

Internet sources:

Famous West Virginians website: www.members.aol.com/jeff560/wv-fam.html

West Virginia Cultural Center website: www.wvculture.org

Notable West Virginian Research Criteria Handout

Early Childhood

Birth date:
Birthplace:
Parents' name:
Siblings:
Schools attended:
Childhood interests (academics,
sports, music, art, drama, dance):
Student achievements:
Unique childhood experience:

Early Adulthood

Education/training/military service:
First job/career:
Experience(s) that led to fame:
Personality traits:

Adulthood

Marriage/children:
Important events:
Areas of recognition (awards, books, films):

Current Status

Alive/deceased:
Interests/career/projects:
Age (if alive or age when deceased):
Residence (state/town):

An interesting fact not commonly known:

