

Title

A Ride to Remember

Grade Level

Middle School, 8th Grade (Humanities)

Theme

Keeping Dakota history alive

Duration

4 weeks (10 – 15 minutes per day/class period)

Goal

Students will understand the Dakota history of the Dakota 38 through research and understanding of the Dakota Wokiksuye Memorial Ride.

Objective

Students will be able to

1. recount the happenings of the Dakota 38 in Mankato, Minnesota on December 26th, 1862.
2. Keep track and display facts of the Dakota and the Dakota 38 as well as the days and current locations of the Dakota Wokiksuye Memorial Ride 2014 (or year of lesson).
3. Define and apply the use of the Lakota numbers (wanci, nunpa, yamni, etc) to identify the 16 days of the ride.

South Dakota Standards

Social Studies: 8.US.1.2 Students are able to describe the unfolding of westward expansion and reform movements in the United States.

Oceti Sakowin 6-8 Evaluating Students are able to evaluate the causes and effects of the removal and relocation: 1828-1887 time periods on the Oceti Sakowin.

Cultural Concept

The concept of an oral history is prominent in the Dakota way and important to keeping the Dakota histories alive, such as the Dakota 38 and Wokiksuye Memorial Ride.

Cultural Background

According to the South Dakota Public Broadcasting's airing of '*Oceti Sakowin: The People of the Seven Council Fires*', "The Oral Tradition of the Oyate: Much of Oyate culture has been passed down orally through the generations, including songs, prayers and storytelling." (PBS website description) It is important to continue educating students about the Dakota 38 and making them aware that there are people still honoring what happened on that fateful day of December 26th, 1862 in Mankota, MN. The Oceti Sakowin people, including the Dakota, are a people proud of their heritage and will do what it takes to pass on their story to generations after them. They honor those who have gone before and work hard to never forget the makings of their history.

Student Activities

***NOTE:** These day activities are could take an entire class period for all these days if you wanted to go really in depth, or could be shortened to only take 10-15 minutes per class period so they could be used in conjunction with other curriculum.

Day 1

1. Students will learn and discuss a quick background of the Dakota People

Day 2

1. Students will learn about the history leading up to the conviction of 303 Dakota people and the execution the Dakota 38.
2. Students will discuss in groups, then as a class, the role Abraham Lincoln played in the fate of the convicted and the Dakota 38.

Day 3

1. Students will discuss the affects of the executions on the Dakota people.

Day 4

1. Students will watch clips of the Dakota 38 video and will discuss the Dakota Wokiksuye Memorial Ride.
2. Students will discuss why this memorial ride is important to the Dakota people and why others are so willing to help support this event.

Day 5

1. Students will begin to create a route display of the memorial ride in the hallway to track the progress of the ride, starting with Day Wanci(1) with where the ride is starting (Crow Creek) and display information about that location. This will be done in groups, one for each day of the ride.
2. Students will also put up new facts about the Dakota people, the Dakota 38 and the history leading up to the executions and the Dakota Wokiksuye memorial ride each day they add to their route display in the hallway. The groups will present display these facts along with their display of the location of the memorial ride.

Day 6-20

1. Students will begin to create a route display of the memorial ride in the hallway to track the progress of the ride, starting with Day Wanci(1) with where the ride is starting (Crow Creek). This will be done in groups, one for each day of the ride.
2. Students will also put up new facts about the Dakota people, the Dakota 38 and the history leading up to the executions and the Dakota Wokiksuye memorial ride each day they add to their route display in the hallway. The groups will present display these facts along with their display of the location of the memorial ride.

Day 21

1. Students will reflect on their learning's of the Dakota, Dakota 38 and the Dakota Wokiksuye Memorial ride.
2. Students will understand the importance of the Oral tradition of the Oyate and tradition of never forgetting the history of the Oceti Sakowin Oyates.

Resources

Poster board, construction paper, makers, pencils, Dakota 38 video, chromebooks (or someway to do research), tape

Assessment

Group Evaluation, Oral Presentations, Poster representations

References

PBS Website – *Oceti Sakowin: The People of the Seven Council Fires* - Description

<http://pbsdll.k12.sd.us/Asset.aspx?ID=402&C=All&G=All&S=oceti>

Dakota 38. Dir. Silas Hagerty Perf. Jim Miller. 2012. Smooth Feather Productions, 2012.
DVD.

Developer

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