

Lesson #1 – Map Skills

Audience: Primary, Grade 1

Plan Preparer: Sarah Ridgway

Standards: History and Social Science Standards of Learning in Virginia:

- 1.4 – The student will develop map skills by
 - d) locating Washington, D.C., the capital of the United States, and Richmond, the capital of Virginia, on a United States map
- 1.11 – The student will recognize the symbols and traditional practices that honor and foster patriotism in the United States by
 - a) identifying the American flag, bald eagle, Washington Monument, and Statue of Liberty

Materials/Space/Time: classroom map of the United States; map of the United States; paper cut outs of the Washington Monument, the White House (Washington, D.C.), the Statue of Liberty, an ‘R’ for Richmond (capital of Virginia), and a ‘W’ for Williamsburg (home); glue; scissors; colored pencils, multiple choice question handout; average classroom space and size (about 20 students); one hour

Lesson Description:

Anticipatory Set: The teacher will review the four cardinal directions. The teacher will use the classroom map of the United States to review the directions on the map and review where Virginia is located on the map, as well as MIMAL (man on the map). The teacher will then begin discussing important landmarks in the United States (see Background Information).

Objectives and Purpose:

1. Having reviewed the cardinal directions with the teacher, students will use the directions to locate historical structures on a map of the United States.
2. Given paper objects that are representative of important landmarks, the students will place them in the correct location on a map of the United States.

Input/Modeling: The teacher will use the classroom map of the United States to demonstrate the location of Williamsburg, Richmond, Statue of Liberty, Washington Monument, and the White House. In order to show these, the teacher will have symbols identical to the ones that the students will use and tape them to the classroom map.

Check for Understanding: The students will return to their desks and receive a blank map of the United States. The teacher will ask them to color various locations on the map to check for their comprehension of the cardinal directions and locating items on the map. They will also be instructed to create a compass rose on their map. The items will be: state of Virginia, colored yellow; MIMAL, colored red; and one state on the west coast (California, Oregon, or Washington), colored green. Once the students correctly identify these locations, the teacher will move on in the lesson.

Guided Practice: The teacher will pass out a new map which will include a map key. The symbols for the students to cut out and color will also be distributed. The teacher will instruct the students to place the Williamsburg symbol on the line connected to the red dot on the map.

Independent Practice: The students will place the remaining symbols on their map according to the coordinating dot: Washington Monument: star; Washington, D.C.: green; Statue of Liberty: orange; Richmond: purple. A key will be on the map to help guide the students. A line will also be drawn away from the dot to provide for ample space for the symbol. The teacher will then use the Document Camera with a map to have students check where they place their symbols. Four students will be called up to the Document Camera to show where they placed their symbols. Once all of the maps have been checked over by the teacher, students will glue their symbols on the map.

Closure: The teacher will collect the maps. The teacher will have students share their maps with a partner.

Evaluation:

Formative: The teacher will observe students participation and understanding during ‘Check for Understanding’ and while the students are completing their maps.

Summative: Students’ maps will be collected at the end of the lesson to see if they correctly identified the locations of the Washington Monument, Washington, D.C., Richmond, Virginia, and the Statue of Liberty; multiple choice question.

Background Information

There are many important landmarks in the U.S., located on the east coast, since they were established when the U.S. was comprised of the 13 colonies. The capital of the U.S. was originally located in Pennsylvania. The First and Second Continental Congress met there from 1774 until 1781. The capital then moved to New Jersey, Maryland, and New York during the writing of the Articles of Confederation. When the Constitution was being written, beginning in 1789, the capital made its way to its present location, Washington, D.C., in 1800. The White House is located in Washington, D.C. which is where the President lives.

The capital of Virginia is currently Richmond; however, it was originally located in Williamsburg. In 1780, it was moved to Richmond to provide a more centralized location for the state. It also a more isolated location to better avoid attacks from the British during the American Revolution.

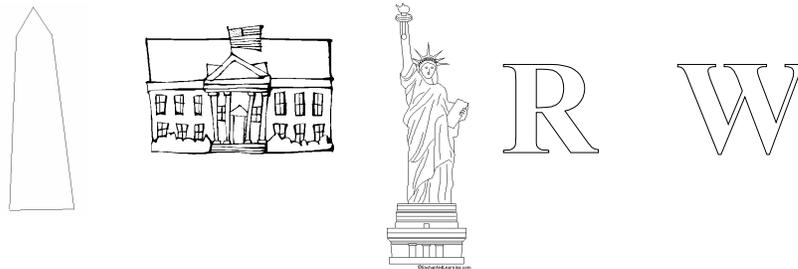
The Washington Monument was created to commemorate the first U.S. President, George Washington. It is the world’s largest stone structure. The shape of the monument is called an obelisk. It was designed in the 1840s and construction began in 1848. However, it was not completed until 1884 because they ran out of the marble used. If you look closely at the monument, you can notice the difference in color of the stones.

The Statue of Liberty was a gift to the United States from the French in 1886. It commemorates the centennial of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The statue is of a robed woman holding a torch and a tablet, which has the date of the signing of the Declaration of Independence inscribed. The seven spikes on the crown represent the seven seas and continents. Her torch signifies enlightenment. It is located in New York because this is where many immigrants enter the United States from Europe. The statue became a symbol of freedom and democracy.

References

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Map Symbols:



*teacher copy of symbols will be made larger to use on classroom map