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Science and Urban Life: Enter the Automobile. Lesson Plan for Grades 9 and 10

John Bowers

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Lesson Plans

Science and Urban Life: Enter the Automobile

Author: John Bowers

Grade(s): 9, 10

Suggested Time: 40 minutes

Materials

10 copies of the photo "Construction of the National Road"

40 copies of the six questions for "Construction of the National Road" photo exercise.

The Americans. Danzer, Klor de Alva, Wilson, Woloch. Mc Dougal Littell. Evenston, IL, 1999.

Core Instruction

Following a homework assignment to read Chapter 8 Section 1 of *The Americans* (pp. 289-302), and the completion of Section 1 Assessment on page 302, the class will be broken into groups of four to five pupils each.

The groups will then be given a copy of the photo "Construction of the National Road" and instructed to study the photo and discuss it in their groups.

After a period of about 10 minutes, the groups will receive a copy of the worksheet and told to complete it, answering all six questions in sentence form. They will have twenty minutes to complete this portion of the assignment.

The groups will use the remaining fifteen to twenty minutes to present their conclusions to the class.

Assessment

Short answer questions:

In one to two sentences, explain the impact that advances in science and technology was having on towns and villages in American at the turn of the century.

Electricity and telephone lines were changing the appearance of the streets in towns and villages.

The increase in truck and car traffic was requiring the improvement and paving of only the streets in towns but in the main connector routes between town and larger cities.

Standards

History 9-10, Benchmark B: Explain the social, political, economic effects of industrialization.

- *Indicator:* Grade 10, GLI 1. Explain the effects of industrialization in the United States in the 19th century including: e. the emergence of a middle class and its impact on culture

- *Geography 9-10, Benchmark A:* Analyze the cultural, physical, economic and political characteristics that define regions and describe reasons that regions change over time.
 - *Indicator:* Grade 10, GLI 1. Explain how perceptions and characteristics of geographic regions in the United States have changed over time including: a. Urban areas; b. Wilderness; c. Farmland
- *Geography 9-10, Benchmark C:* Analyze the patterns and processes of movement of people, products and ideas.
 - *Indicator:* Grade 10, GLI 3. Analyze the geographic processes that contributed to changes in American society including: b. Urbanization and suburbanization