



Teaching with Historic Places Lesson Plan

The Blacksmith

School: Veterans Memorial School
Subject: Social Studies

Contributors: Maureen Boyle
Grade: 1

Introduction:

This lesson is part of a first grade unit on Colonial times which includes learning about different Early American trades. The children will learn about the blacksmith and the products he made which were important to Colonial society.

The blacksmith had an important job in Colonial times. He made the iron tools that were needed for building, farming, cooking, and traveling. Nails, plows, shovels, pots, kettles, horseshoes, and wagon wheels were made of iron. Iron was necessary in Colonial times to help the country grow.

Objectives:

- The students will be able to tell why the blacksmith's job was important.
- The students will be able to name some of the products made by the blacksmith.

Materials:

- Book: *A Visit to the Iron Works* by Mary Stetson Clarke
- Large chart paper
- Story paper
- Pencils
- Markers or crayons



Sparks from hammer and anvil at the Saugus Iron Works

Activities:

1. Read the book, *A Visit to the Saugus Ironworks*, to the class. Tell the children that they will be learning about the first iron works and why it was important to the people of colonial times.
2. Discuss with the class some of the products which were made of iron. (e.g. nails for building, plows and shovels for farming, pots and kettles for cooking, horseshoes and wagon wheels for traveling.)



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3. Brainstorm examples of iron products and discuss how they made life easier for the colonists. List the examples on chart paper.
4. Arrange a class visit to the Saugus Iron Works. The students will be able to see how iron was made and watch a blacksmith at work.

Assessment:

Have the children make a class picture book of products that were made by a blacksmith. Give



The Saugus Iron Works

each child a piece of story paper on which he/she should write the name of a product and its use. An illustration should be drawn for each example. Bind the pages to make a class book.

Follow-Up Activity:

The students may do a word search puzzle to reinforce some of the new words that they have learned during the lesson.



Name: _____

Saugus Iron Works Word Search

S P R T I I C S I S Q I S H H
E K Y E R R R L E I Y L B A T
P R R B O V K O V H I Y S M I
K O U O N S H O T A J I S M M
M H T N W S H T N F D P J E S
O H L S E N I O I O A G F R K
Y W C S U E O R V P U I V Y C
C L R U K T E R G E X Y D J A
L O S L E E H W I R L X R X L
H I P L O W S S F S L S K P B
T B V L I N W V A O U E Y I O
Y W U N V J F W F O T G V X A
T S D S A N W G R T Z Y U A X
Z D F J S Q V I L P B Q X A H
F U R N A C E E F T Z A E Q S

1. ANVIL

2. HAMMER

3. KETTLE

4. POTS

5. TOOLS

6. BLACKSMITH

7. HORSESHOES

8. NAILS

9. SAUGUSIRONWORKS

10. WAGONWHEELS

11. FURNACE

12. IRON

13. PLOWS

14. SHOVELS