

Participant Lesson Plan

Title: Labor Day: Just the Pool Closing?

Grade Level: 2

Time Frame: 40 minutes

Subject: Seasonal/Holiday

Teacher Name: Alys Mihok

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School District: Upper Dauphin Elementary School (Capital Area IU)

National Center for History in the Schools Historic Era:

Era 10: Contemporary United States (1968-present)

Pennsylvania Academic Standards:

- 8.1.3.A Understand chronological thinking and distinguish between past, present and future time.
 - Calendar time
 - Time lines
 - Continuity and change
 - Events (time and place)
- 8.1.3.D Understand historical research.
 - Primary sources
- 1.4.3.B Write informational pieces (e.g., descriptions, letters, reports, instructions) using illustrations when relevant.
- 1.6.3.B Listen to a selection of literature (fiction/nonfiction).
- 1.5.3.A Write with a sharp, distinct focus identifying topic, task and audience.

Objectives:

1. The student will use the calendar to identify Labor Day with 100% accuracy.
2. The student will identify one piece of important information after listening to an excerpt about Labor Day.
3. The student will use correct capitalization, punctuation, letter size and word spacing and incorporate factual information in a written response to a prompt.

Learning Activities:

Focus Activity: Students will view Labor Day Parade video without being told what the parade is for (Labor Day). Students will identify the activity and brainstorm possible reasons for there being a parade. Brainstorming ideas will be placed on the blackboard. Students will identify the upcoming holiday. If they cannot determine the holiday then a calendar may be consulted.

Inquiry Activity: Students will listen to the teacher read aloud a segment detailing what Labor Day is about. Teacher will place enlarged picture of a Labor Day parade on the board to be viewed during listening. This will serve as illustration. Teacher will paraphrase the following excerpt to apply to populace of class:

"On September 5, 1882, some 10,000 workers assembled in New York City to participate in America's first Labor Day parade. After marching from City Hall to Union Square, the workers and their families gathered in Reservoir Park for a picnic, concert, and speeches. This first Labor Day celebration was initiated by Peter J. McGuire, a carpenter and labor union leader who a year earlier cofounded the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions, a precursor of the American Federation of Labor.

McGuire had proposed his idea for a holiday honoring American workers at a labor meeting in early 1882. New York's Central Labor Union quickly approved his proposal and began planning events for the second Tuesday in September. McGuire had suggested a September date in order to provide a break during the long stretch between Independence Day and Thanksgiving. While the first Labor Day was held on a Tuesday, the holiday was soon moved to the first Monday in September, the date we continue to honor."
(<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/sep05.html>)

Teacher will ask the following comprehension questions:

1. Who assembled in New York City?
2. Who proposed the idea for a holiday honoring American workers?
3. What day of the week was Labor Day first celebrated?
4. What day of the week is it now celebrated?
5. What did families do in Reservoir Park?

Application Activity: Students will create an American flag out of construction paper. On the back of the flag students will write a response to the following prompt:



"Labor Day is..."

Assessment: Based on the response written on the back of the flag students will be assessed based on the following criteria:

1. Accurate information -2 pts
2. Capitalization -1 pt
3. Punctuation-1 pt
4. Size and spacing of letters and words-1pt

Bibliographic Organizer

Labor Day: Just the Pool Closing?

Thumbnail Image	Title	Library of Congress URL
 <p>Video</p>	<p>Labor Day parade, Fitchburg, Mass.</p> <p>Alternate inventory title: Fitchburg, Mass., Labor Day parade.</p> <p>CREATED/PUBLISHED: [United States : Thomas A. Edison, Inc., 1904?].</p>	<p>http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mbrsmi/awal.4188</p>
	<p>Labor Day parade, Main St., Buffalo, N.Y. [ca. 1900]</p>	<p>http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/det.4a08405</p>