

It's Off to Work We Go!

Grade levels: 3-6

Standards: Pennsylvania Academic Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening
1.2.3 A, 1.6.3 A, 1.6.3 D, 1.6.3 E Pennsylvania Academic Standards for Civics and Government

5.1.3 D Pennsylvania Academic Standards for History

8.2.3 C, 8.3.3 A

Common Core: SL.5.1

Materials: Hershey Business Cards – 3 cards per student

Hershey Times Newspaper Reporter Sheet – 1 per student

glue

Teacher Background:

This lesson was created to give students an opportunity to go back in time to the time when Milton Hershey was alive. Milton Hershey was known to have built Hershey as a model community for his employees to live and work in. He created several businesses in order to give people jobs and the result was a thriving, incredible, unique community to live in.

In this lesson, students will look at the different jobs that people living in Hershey had during the early 1900's. They will pretend and take on the roles of several workmen and will be interviewed by newspaper reporters (other students). They will then draw conclusions based on their interviews about the importance of each job and how it contributed to the success of Milton Hershey's model community.

Lesson Plan

Essential Question: What jobs were important in Hershey during the time Milton Hershey was alive and why?

Activating Strategies:

Step 1 – Review with students the experience they had while visiting The Hershey Story.

Step 2 – Read the essential question to the class and have students share their thoughts together as a class.

Step 3 – Explain to the class that they will take turns acting out different jobs that were important during the time that Milton Hershey was alive and being newspaper reporters

interviewing the different workmen. Encourage students to really get into their roles and to really think about how each job contributed to the success of the community.

Teaching Strategies:

Step 1 – Prior to the lesson, copy and cut out enough business cards for every student to have three.

Step 2 – Divide the class in half. Give one half of the class the business cards (3 different cards per student). Have students examine the three cards they've been given to determine what the jobs are and why they feel they were important during the early 1900's.

Step 3 – Pass out the newspaper reporter sheets to the other half of the class. Their job is to 'interview' three different Hershey workmen. They are to collect their business cards and conduct a short interview by asking the questions on the page. They are to then write down the information they are provided from the workmen and glue the business card into the square beside it.

Step 4 – Allow students time to conduct their interviews.

Step 5 – Reverse the roles. The newspaper reporters should now each get three different business cards and the workmen should now get the newspaper reporter sheet. Allow a little bit of time for the new workmen to become familiar with their jobs.

Step 6 – Once again, conduct the interviews.

Summarizing Strategies:

Have students share their experiences with the class. Lead them to draw conclusions about the different jobs held in the early 1900's and why they were important in Milton Hershey's model community. Collect their sheets.

Bibliography

McMahon Jr, James D. Built On Chocolate – The Story of the Hershey Chocolate Company. Los Angeles: General Publishing Group, 1998.

Simon, Charnan. Milton Hershey – Chocolate King, Town Builder. New York: Children's Press, 1998.

<http://www.hersheystory.org>

Hershey Times

Directions: You are a reporter for The Hershey Times. Interview three Hershey workmen from the early 1900's. Ask them about their job and don't forget to collect their business cards and glue them below.

Job: _____

Description: _____

Why it's important: _____

Job: _____

Description: _____

Why it's important: _____

Job: _____

Description: _____

Why it's important: _____

McKinley School

Teacher

W. Preston Martin

Hershey, Pennsylvania

Postman



G. D. Gift



Hershey Post Office
Hershey, Pennsylvania
1906



RYAN J. MONEYBAGS
BANKER



Hershey Trust Company
Hershey, Pennsylvania

DREW D. MENTCH
GENERAL STORE MERCHANT

RETAILER IN FINE MERCHANDISE

HERSHEY DEPARTMENT STORE
HERSHEY, PA

Factory Worker

Mark D. Larry

Hershey Chocolate Company

Hershey, Pennsylvania

Dairy Farmer

Johnny Brown

Hershey, PA



TROLLEY CONDUCTOR

Thomas J. Gordon



Hershey Trolley Company
Hershey, PA

Printing Press Operator

G. J. Washington

Hershey Press Building
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