Lincoln Landing Artifacts (7th grade)

This lesson plan was developed to give students a better understanding of the local and national impact of the Illinois and Michigan (I&M) Canal. In addition, it allows for them to make modern connections to the history they are learning. The lesson begins with a field trip to Lincoln Landing, where students will learn about Abraham Lincoln, the I&M Canal and Lockport. This will allow students to explore local history, while also experiencing history beyond their social studies textbooks. They should examine the various medallions throughout Lincoln Landing, as there are 12 artifact medallions that show tools used by individuals living and working during the canal days. Students should leave Lincoln Landing understanding what the canal was, and what it meant for Lockport, Chicago and the state of Illinois.

Once back in the classroom, students will be given the opportunity to further understand the canal's impact in regards to the artifacts used. They will work in small groups to brainstorm various uses, benefits and modern interpretations of each artifact, which will help them to understand how people lived and working during this era. They will also be able to see how the advancements made in 1848 are still present today. This will help them to understand the canal's impact on the community, and that is still present today. This lesson gives students a deeper understanding of how their own community shapes the rest of the state, as well as allowing them the opportunity to examine history in their own way.

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Materials Needed:

Teacher:	Student:
Medallion Game Handout	
Examples of the 12 artifacts from Lincoln Landing	
12 large posters and markers	

Rationale:

Following a field trip to Lincoln Landing, students will demonstrate their understanding of the I&M canal by brainstorming the uses/ benefits of the artifacts presented at Lincoln Landing. They will also relate the tools to a modern use.

Standards:

- **D2.Geo.7.6-8.** Explain how changes in transportation and communication technology influence the spatial connections among human settlements and affect the diffusion of ideas and cultural practices.
- **D2.Eco.2.6-8.** Evaluate alternative approaches or solutions to current economic issues in terms of benefits and costs for different groups and society as a whole.
- **D2.**Eco.**7.6-8.** Analyze the role of innovation and entrepreneurship in a market economy.

Learning Objective:

Students will be able to demonstrate the significance of the I&M Canal by brainstorming benefits, uses and modern connections of the artifacts from Lincoln Landing.

Instructional Procedures:

Teacher	Students	Time
Students will attend a field trip at Lincoln Landing to learn about Abraham Lincoln, the I&M canal and Lockport.	Students listening to teacher instruction	30 minutes

Teacher will highlight the various medallions throughout Lincoln Landing, and explain that each person was significant to Lockport's history. Using the Medallion Game handout, have students find the matching "artifact" and "community" medallions.	Students listening to teacher instruction and playing medallion game.	20 minutes
To close the field trip, the teacher will ask students to describe what they noticed about the artifact medallions, and which was their favorite.	Students sharing their thoughts	5 minutes
Once back in the classroom, ask students what they learned about the artifacts/ tools used on the I&M canal.	Sharing their thoughts.	10 minutes
Instruct students to work in small groups. Using a handout, powerpoint slide, etc. of the 12 tools presented at Lincoln Landing. Label 12 large sheets of paper with each artifact and hang around the room.	Students working in groups to read through Canal Roadmap Handout	30 minutes
Have groups carousel brainstorm different uses/ benefits of each tool, and how those tools are used today.	Students writing their thoughts on each sheet of paper	
Discuss as a class what each poster says.	Students are listening/ answering questions	10 minutes

Assessment(s):

activity	Description: This is a formative assessment that will allow the teacher to observe each student's understanding of what the I&M canal was, and how the various tools/ artifacts were used.

Adaptations or Accommodations needed:

Learners	Adaptations/Accommodations
Highly Proficient	Students can brainstorm or research additional uses for each tool.
ELL	Students will be given vocabulary support and any additional context needed.
Struggling Learners	Same as ELL

Resources: