Enhancement Activities/Strategies for Gifted/High Ability Learners: Sample Social Studies Learning Plan

Big Idea/ Topic

- Causes of the American Revolution: French and Indian War Connecting
- Theme/Enduring Understanding: Conflict and Change: The student will understand that when there is conflict between or within societies, change is the result.
- Location: The student will understand that location affects a society’s economy, culture, and development.
- Essential Question: How was Great Britain’s war with France a spark for the American Revolution?

Standard Alignment

SS4H1 Explain the causes, events, and results of the American Revolution
a. Trace the events that shaped the revolutionary movement in America: French and Indian War...

Connection to Literacy Standards for Social Studies and Social Studies Matrices
- ELAGSE4RI3: Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text
- ELAGSE4SL2: Paraphrase portions of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats
- ELAGSE4SL4: Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner, using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details.
- Information Processing Skills: Compare similarities and differences; organize items chronologically; identify and use primary and secondary sources; analyze artifacts; draw conclusions and make generalizations
- Map and Globe Skills: Use map key/legend to acquire information from historical, physical, political, resource, product, and economic maps; use a map to explain impact of geography on historical and current events; draw conclusions and make generalizations based on information from maps
Advanced Research

Choose an important person from the French and Indian War. Possible choices: Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, William Pitt, Jeffery Amherst, Pontiac, James Wolfe, Edward Braddock, Louis Montalm, or you can propose someone else. What are some events that included this person? What might this person have written in a “social media” post at that time? Use your research to create a fake social media account for this person using this tool from ReadWriteThink.

Communication

Write the “text dialogue” between two significant people from the French and Indian War. Use the Text Creator tool. Be sure to keep your exchange brief, but accurate.

Critical Thinking and Critical Problem-Solving Skills

Breakout EDU (You can sign up for a free game if you don’t have an account) American Scramble. Digital Breakout games are an easy way to challenge students to collaborate, use critical thinking, and communication to “breakout” (like an escape room concept, but everything is digital). This game requires children to apply their understanding of figurative language. If this is your students’ first experience with a Breakout Challenge, you may need to be prepared to give hints to help guide students. I find the best hints are questions to make them think more. Allow the students time to struggle before providing a hint. I encourage students to use the back of their recording sheet to write down solutions they try. Oftentimes, they will figure out the answer by working through what does not work. (Handout on p. 3)

Creative Thinking and Creative Problem-Solving Skills

- A picture is worth a thousand words. This phrase is true about political cartoons, too. Have students work in pairs or small groups to analyze and discuss this political cartoon. The cartoon, “The Bostonian’s Paying the Excise-Man, or Tarring and Feathering” was printed in London in 1774. Have students discuss the questions following the cartoon image.

- Here’s a different political cartoon (“Join or Die” from Benjamin Franklin) you can have your
students discuss. This is part of a 2-part lesson from the National Park Service including a short reading on how the French and Indian War set the stage for the American Revolution.

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<td>You can set up a FREE account for your students on Pixton. Once students create a bitmoji-like character (10 minutes), they can then create comics depicting the various viewpoints of the French, Colonists, Native Americans, and/or British. You can expand the resources and images for students by purchasing the American Revolution content pack, but it is not necessary.</td>
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Crash! You weren't looking where you were going and crashed into your history teacher. His papers went flying everywhere; now they are all mixed up. Can you help him sort out the people, places, and events from the American Revolutionary War?

What “acts” lead up to the American Revolution?

Why did the colonists declare independence from Britain?

How did the French and Indian War set the American Colonies against Britain?

**Digital Breakout EDU Challenge Recording Sheet: American Scramble**

My Name ________________________________________________

Names of the Students in My Group: ________________________________________________

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