

Rights and Responsibilities in History

Students work cooperatively as they do research, produce written and visual materials, and compile their findings in an iMovie project that is both logically coherent and artistically compelling. This project addresses the needs of verbal, visual, and auditory learners.

Project Description

Students create an iMovie project that relates to the 2003 National History Day topic: Rights and Responsibilities in History. Students analyze a primary source document (such as a law, speech, newspaper, or journal) and see how it is related to a major theme in history and what impact it has had. Working in groups of two to three, one student acts as the primary source researcher and one as the images researcher. Another role can be the artistic director who is responsible for enhancing the photos, copyright issues, and the bibliography. Students research their document using the Internet and other resources, use a scanner to capture images from books, and download images from the Internet. They then import their images into iPhoto, organize them in one album, and edit them as needed. Students locate music to use in their movie and add it to their iTunes Library. Next, they complete a storyboard for their movie that includes a script, a list of images, and music. They then create a new iMovie project, import images, add effects such as the Ken Burns effect, record narration, and add music, titles, and other elements. They share their iMovie projects with the whole class.

Outcomes

After completing this project, students will be able to:

- Analyze and interpret a primary source document and understand the impact it has had on history.
- Have increased their research and reading skills.

Technology Skills

After completing this project, students will be able to:

- Use a scanner to capture and download photos from books.
- Locate and download information and images from the Internet.
- Use iPhoto to import, organize, and edit images.
- Use iTunes to import and organize music tracks.
- Use iMovie to produce a movie project that includes images, narration, effects, transitions, and titles.

Assessment Suggestions

- Students can be given a criteria sheet to use as they complete the steps of the project. The finished product can be assessed using a rubric based on the criteria sheet.
- Another form of assessment can be peer evaluation. Students can field test the movie and critique the product.

Tools and Resources

Internet

- History Day website:
http://nationalhistoryday.org/03_educators/2003curbook/01-covers/contents.html
- Digital storytelling: <http://faculty.harker.org/billba/dvworkshop/overview.html>
- iLife How-To Guides: <http://www.apple.com/education/ilife/howto/>

Tools

Macintosh computers, scanner, Internet connection, iMovie, iPhoto, iTunes

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