

Living Yesterday's History Today

It is important for students to have a true understanding of this country's past. What was life like over 200 years ago in Colonial America? What kinds of jobs did people have and how did they live their lives? How did this country begin and where can we go to see life the way it was? Why is the history of our country important?

Project Description

In this project, students use iTunes and iMovie as they bring the colonial period to life. First, the class learns more about the period either by being visited by a colonial reenactment group or by viewing a video that shows what life was like in that period. Students then use the Internet to do research about a colonial person's life. They write a dramatic presentation about the person that they use as the basis for an iMovie project and then "act out" the character they have researched. They locate music from the colonial period to include in their movie and save it in an iTunes playlist. Students use an AppleWorks storyboard to plan all of the elements of their iMovie project, such as the scenes, music, and props. Students then shoot video of each other's presentations. When the project is complete, the class views all of the movies. The movies can be posted to a classroom website for parents and others to view.

Outcomes

After completing this project, students will be able to:

- Describe and contrast life as it was in colonial days.
- Plan, compose, and produce a student movie.
- Reflect on what they have learned and share their experience with others in digital format.

Technology Skills

After completing this project, students will be able to:

- Use AppleWorks to create a storyboard.
- Use a digital camcorder to film the presentation.
- Use iTunes to listen to a selected playlist and use the songs in an iMovie project.
- Use iMovie to import video, edit a movie, and share the project.

Assessment Suggestions

- Students can have their storyboards assessed by applying a teacher-created rubric.
- Students can evaluate their peers' movies.
- Copies of the iMovie projects and AppleWorks documents can be added to the students' electronic portfolios.

Tools and Resources

Tools

Macintosh computers, digital camcorders, printer, Internet connection, iMovie, iTunes, AppleWorks

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