



4: Colonial Vacation Planner



OBJECTIVE:

Students will use website designs (from “This Great State!” lesson) and other U.S. travel resources and maps to plan a family vacation to states that were among the original 13 colonies.



MATERIALS:

- “Colonial Vacation Planner” work pages (pages 16 and 17)
- Website designs from “This Great State!” (optional) (pages 10-13)
- Reference/tourism materials about the original 13 colonies/states
- Pencils
- Markers, colored pencils, and/or crayons
- Glue
- Stapler or other book-binding material (e.g., hole puncher and yarn)



PREPARATIONS:

- Review lesson.
- Make several copies of the work pages for each student.
- Cut pages in half vertically.
- Gather U.S. maps or atlases with mileage scales.
- Gather other state tourism materials.
- Bookmark state home pages, the United States Mint website home page (www.USMINT.gov), and/or travel websites for Internet research (optional).
- Make a sample Colonial Vacation Planner (for demonstration).



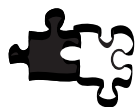
GROUPING:

- Individual and small groups



CLASS TIME:

- 2 class periods



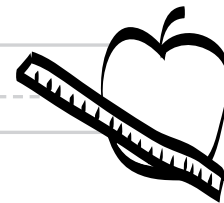
CONNECTIONS:

- Math
- Language Arts
- History
- Geography



TERMS and CONCEPTS:

- Map skills
- Multi-step problem solving
- Colonial America
- Statehood
- Historical landmarks



Applying Research and Math Skills



STEPS:

1. Explain to students that they will be planning a summer vacation for their families, during which they will visit some of the states that were the original 13 colonies. They will need to determine which historical landmarks they will visit in each state, map their route, calculate the mileage, and determine how much money they will spend on gasoline.
2. Hand out the “Colonial Vacation Planner” templates (pages 16 and 17), several copies of each strip to each student. Show the sample “Colonial Vacation Planner” and explain to students that they will be making a booklet to organize all their travel information.
3. Allow students time to research and decide which states they would like to visit. Then instruct them to gather details and decide which landmarks will be visited.
4. When these decisions have been made, students will be ready to begin using maps to figure out mileage and gasoline costs. Ask students to assume the average car gets 200 miles to a tank (optional: students can find out from their parents the actual MPG of their family car). If not covered previously, students will need some instruction on how to use a mileage scale.
5. After all information has been gathered and recorded, students should begin to assemble their Colonial Vacation Planner books.

How to Create a Colonial Vacation Planner:

1. First, students should complete the cover by coloring in the states they will visit and charting their route between the states.
2. Next, students should record the first state they will visit and decide which landmarks to see and enter these landmarks on the “State Landmark Log” (page 16), along with information about the historical significance of the landmark.
3. Students should then use maps to determine the mileage from the first landmark to the second and from the second landmark to the third and enter this information in the “State Landmark Log” (page 16).
4. Students should use the “Trip Mileage and Gas Log” (page 17) to record starting and ending points for that segment of the trip, mileage information, and gasoline expenditures.
5. Students can then use the “State Landmark Journal” (page 17) to draw and write about the state.
6. Students should complete the three sheets for each of the states along their route. The “Trip Mileage and Gas Log” (page 17) will help students keep track of total mileage and gas expenditures for the trip as a whole.
7. When the Colonial Vacation Planner pages are finished, books should be bound using either staplers, a hole punch with yarn or string, or plastic ring binders.



ENRICHMENT/EXTENSIONS:

Have students plan a field trip to a local historical site. Take the field trip!



STATE LANDMARK LOG

State to be visited: _____

Directions: List at least 3 landmarks in the sequence they will be visited and include some information about the historical significance. Calculate and record the mileage between each landmark.

Landmarks to be visited in this state:

1.

Mileage to landmark 1: _____

Mileage between landmark 1 and 2: _____

3.

Mileage between landmark 2 and 3: _____

_____ 's

Colonial Vacation Planner



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TRIP MILEAGE AND GAS LOG

State to be visited: _____

Starting location: _____

Starting mileage: _____

(Enter your mileage from the previous state)

Ending location: _____

Ending mileage: _____

(Enter your total trip mileage)

- Circle your starting location in **RED**
- Circle your ending location in **BLUE**
- Draw your travel route in **GREEN**
- Mark each landmark's location in **PURPLE**



TOTAL mileage for this trip: _____

Gasoline price: _____

TOTAL amount spent on gas: _____

NOTES:



STATE LANDMARK JOURNAL

State Landmark: _____

Directions: Using pictures and words, describe why this landmark is important and why you found it interesting.

