

LESSON PLAN # 8 – The Treaty of Ghent – Be a Delegate!

TOPIC: To conclude, the students will study the Treaty of Ghent. This is the agreement that ended the war.

CURRICULUM EXPECTATIONS:

Students will –

- describe the impact of the War of 1812 on the development of Canada;
- use appropriate vocabulary to describe their inquiries and observations;
- trace the historical development of their own community.

OBJECTIVES (desired student outcomes):

The students will –

a) **Attitudes:**

- appreciate the diplomacy required in political discussions.

b) **Skills:**

- develop debating and public speaking skills.

c) **Knowledge:**

- use their acquired knowledge to be informed members of the delegation.

RESOURCES:

- *War of 1812 in the Western District* website
- Classroom and/or desks arranged to accommodate a conference discussion

INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY:

Visit the website to read and discuss how the war ended. Read also the consequences of the war.

The Treaty of Ghent was an agreement that was developed in Europe. The delegates decided many issues that impacted the people of the United States and British North America.

Ask the students:

Do you agree with the decisions outlined in the Treaty of Ghent?

How did the war and the decisions outlined in the treaty impact the people of the United States and British North America in the years after the war?

DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES:

This lesson will take up to two class periods.

The students are delegates to the treaty discussions. Have the students decide who should be American and who should be British. (Canadians and First Nation peoples were not represented at the discussions).

This is a reenactment of the discussions; however, there is a twist. The students are allowed to decide the outcome of the treaty. The students must defend their own side, but must also be reasonable, diplomatic and able to defend their position.

Suggested questions:

1. What terms did the class develop for their Treaty of Ghent?
2. How are your terms the same as the actual terms? How are they different?
3. What are some of the consequences that may arise as a result of your treaty terms?

CONCLUDING ACTIVITY:

Together, the students should develop an official looking document indicating the terms of their agreement. They can all sign it.

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Observe students during the discussion (who participates actively, who takes on a leadership role?)

Evaluate students' responses to the post treaty discussion questions.

FOLLOW-UP IDEAS:

To conclude, ask students to include information about the end of the war and the Treaty of Ghent in their journals.