

Missouri Western Lesson Plan

Name: Kristi Voisard

Grade Level: 6th

Content Area: Social Studies

Lesson Title: Problem Solving: Unequal Resource Distribution

Lesson Objectives: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the concepts of supply and demand, trade, ruling systems and absolute power. **Show Me Standards:** 4- Economic concepts and principles, 3- Principles and processes of governance systems, 5- The major elements of geographical study and analysis and their relationships to changes in society and environment, 6- Relationships of the individual and groups to institutions and cultural traditions.

Materials/resources needed to conduct this lesson:

- 3 task sheets
- 3 large manila envelopes
- 2 pairs of scissors
- 20 paper clips
- 1 ruler
- 1 glue stick
- 3 pencils
- colored paper (8 ½" x 11") – 4 red, 3 yellow, 2 blue, 2 ^{brown} orange, 2 green

Lesson Preparation: Fill and number the 3 large envelopes as follows. Each numbered envelope should be distributed with the corresponding task sheet.

Envelope #1 – 2 scissors, 1 pencil, 1 ruler, 20 paper clips, construction paper: 1 red sheet.

Envelope #2 – 1 glue stick, 1 pencil, construction paper: 1 yellow sheet, 2 red.

Envelope #3 – construction paper: 2 each green, yellow, blue, red and brown.

The teacher will:

- Instruct students to completely clear their desks
- Divide the class into 3 groups
- Explain that each group represents a fictitious country. They must name their country, select a leader and a title for the leader (i.e. president, queen, czar)
- Give each leader an envelope containing resources and a task sheet to be used to meet the needs of its citizens.
- Tell the students they may begin, give them a time limit of 15 – 20 minutes.

- Observe the “countries” and student interaction while completing their tasks
- At the end of the allotted time compare quality and quantity. Ask students to share ways in which they met the wants and needs of it’s citizens
- Discuss with students what they learned from this activity and how they felt it dealt with their unit.

The student will:

- Clear their desks
- Join their assigned groups
- Name their country, appoint a leader and give that leader a title
- Receive their packet
- Open their packet and look at their task sheet and resources
- Work together to try and finish the tasks and figure out how to complete everything with limited resources.
- Share their work and what they did to accomplish what they did
- Join discussion about how this activity dealt with the topics in their unit.