

Create your own Women's History Museum

Lesson Prepared by Alexi Murry

Description:

Students will research a woman/group of women. They will then find an object associated with their woman/group of women and create a museum exhibit.

Objective: Students will learn how to thoroughly research a topic and create a museum exhibit.

Grade Level: 6th-9th

Time: 2-3 class periods and 1-2 nights of homework

Part One: Finding Primary Sources (Individually)

1. One person per group will create a Google document to share with her fellow students.
2. Each group will be assigned one of the Historical Topics/Time Periods listed below and will be given an accompanying list of five women from their respective time period:
 - a. Historical Topic/Time Period
 - i. Colonial Era
 - ii. Civil War & Reconstruction
 - iii. Progressive Era
 - iv. World War II
 - v. Civil Rights
 - vi. Culture & Arts
 - vii. Sports
3. Go to National Women's History Museum: [Topics](#), [Exhibits](#), or [Biographies](#)
4. Each individual will choose one of the five women from their groups historical topics /time period to research and will choose an artifact which best represents the historical importance of the woman.
 - a. Individuals will incorporate their research into the Group's shared Google document.
ALL WORK SHOULD BE KEPT IN ONE DOCUMENT.
5. Artifacts can be researched and selected through the Smithsonian's Collections Website and can be searched by topic or object.
 - a. Snip the image of the artifact into your group's Google document
 - b. Include information according to the Example below:



Catalog Data

CREATOR:	Evans-Tibbs Collection Q
PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:	1 photographic print gelatin silver 8 x 6 in. (20.3 x 15.2 cm)
CULTURE:	African American Q
TYPE:	Photographic prints
DATE:	1894 Circa1894
CITE AS:	Evans-Tibbs Collection, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution, gift of the Estate of Thurlow E. Tibbs, Jr
REPOSITORY LOC.:	Anacostia Community Museum Archives, MRC-777 1901 Fort Place, SE, Washington, DC 20020 (tel. 202.633.4853, fax 202.287.2422) ACMarchives@si.edu Consult archivist by appointment
TOPIC:	African American women Q Portraits Q
LOCAL NUMBER:	ACMA PH2003.7063.402
RESTRICTIONS & RIGHTS:	Use of the materials requires an appointment. Please contact the archivist to make an appointment: ACMarchives@si.edu
DATA SOURCE:	Anacostia Community Museum Archives
EDAN-URL:	edanmnm:siris_arc_361026

Part Two: Create an Exhibition (Group)

1. Create a title for your exhibition EX: “Women of Colonial America”
2. As a group choose ONE of the artifacts to be used as the MAIN object of your time period. The object is an artifact from the time period; art, movie poster, letter, a flag, fashion ect.
 - a. MAIN object will be a symbol of your whole exhibition, IT cannot be one of the women. It should be an artifact that connects the women.
 - b. As a group look through the [Smithsonian’s Collection](#) to find the main object.
3. Create an information panel on your historical time period which represents a woman’s life at the time.
4. Create a label for the MAIN OBJECT.

Part Three: Secondary Object (Individual)

5. You will choose ONE of the five women to be your secondary object.
6. You must research her background and her historical importance.
7. Include an artifact from the time that reflects her background and importance.
8. You must include a picture of her.
9. Create an information panel with label for your object.

Part Four: Exhibition

1. As a group, print color photos of each of your objects (Secondary & Main)
2. Print your labels
3. Back it with color paper
4. Hang the objects and labels in the hallway.
 - a. *Optional:* Have a “gallery opening” for students and parents

Group 1: Colonial and Revolutionary Era

- Anne Hutchinson
- Abigail Smith Adams
- Penelope Barker
- Mercy Otis Warren
- Phillis Wheatley
- Pocahontas

Group 2: Civil War & Reconstruction

- Dorothea Dix
- Harriet Beecher Stowe
- Harriet Tubman
- Sojourner Truth
- Angelina Grimké Weld/Sarah Moore Grimké
- Clara Barton

Group 3: Progressive Era

- Jane Addams
- Mary Church Terrell
- Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- Susan Brownell Anthony
- Ida B. Wells-Barnett
- Mary Harris Jones

Group 4: World War II

- Eleanor Roosevelt
- Leona Libby
- Oveta Hobby
- Miné Okubo
- Charity Earley
- Florence Hall

Group 5: Civil Rights

- Ruby Hurley
- Fannie Lou Hamer
- Dorothy Height
- Rosa Parks
- Coretta Scott King
- Daisy Bates

Group 6: Culture & Arts

- Maya Angelou
- Julia Child
- Lucille Ball
- Josephine Baker
- Zora Neale Hurston
- Joyce Chen

Women's History Project Rubric

The purpose of this project is to create a women's history museum exhibition display.

Category	5	4	3	0-2
Creativity/ Presentation value	Presentation is unique, different, or contains some creative and relevant elements that make the exhibition stand out.	Presentation creativity is above average and contains some distinct elements that are eye-catching.	Presentation creativity is average	Creativity is significantly lacking, presentation is boring/ straightforward/ black and white
Neatness/ Consistency	Project is clean, well-constructed, and visually appealing. Museum-quality presentation	Project is neat, with a minor mistake or two. Might have a slight inconsistency with other group members' projects, but nothing major.	Neatness is average, a few mistakes in presentation. Project may be slightly inconsistent with that of other group members.	Project is sloppy, unclean, hard to make sense of, messy, etc. Project is inconsistent with the design of other group members' projects.
Dates and other essential information	Tombstone contains all dates and essential information about the artifacts.	Tombstone contains some essential information, but may be missing something that would have been helpful to understand the artifact		Dates and other essential information are missing or incorrect.
Significance	Writing clearly explains the significance of the woman in American History.	Writing explains the general significance of the woman, but spends too much time on basic factual information.	Writing relays basic factual information, but does not give the woman significance.	Writing is factually inaccurate, missing, or contains significant flaws.