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Dresden Middle School
Dresden, TN

Unit: The Great Depression

Lesson: Alpine and the New Deal

Grade Level: 5th

Era: 7-The Emergence of Modern America (1890-1930)

Curriculum Standards:

5.2.01. b Describe economic issues of the 1920's and 1930's.

Instructional Objectives:

TSW locate Alpine, Tennessee on a map.

TSW identify economic problems in Alpine, Tennessee during the Great Depression.

TSW examine reasons why Standing Stone State Park was created.

TSW examine reasons for the New Deal program

TSW research the outcomes of the New Deal.

Introduction:

Ask students if they have ever heard of the town of Alpine or been to any locations close to the town such as Cookeville, Crossville, etc. Tell students to locate the city on a map. Have other students to help. Ask them if there are any state parks or national parks nearby. Explain to the students that we are going to look at several pictures of different spots in the town of Alpine.

Instruction:

1. Divide students into groups. Show them the pictures of the boys in front of the school and other pictures from Alpine. Ask them if they believe that these pictures are current. Tell them to be ready to explain why or why not. If they all say that because the picture is black and white, ask them to provide you other details found within the picture.
2. Complete the following questions in groups for the picture of the boys in front of the Alpine School.
 1. What is pictured?
 2. Describe what seems normal or odd in the picture?
 3. Do any of the subjects in the picture seem to be poor or rich? Who? Why do you think that?
 4. Do the subjects seem to be overly happy in the picture or sad?
 5. What do you think the boys in this picture are thinking?
3. Compare groups' answers as a class.
4. Explain what each of the pictures were about and what year they were from.

5. Ask kids what they think happened to the town. How would you try to help a town that was so economically poor? Then explain that Standing Stone State Park was created in the 1930s as part of the New Deal program.
6. Have groups then research the New Deal program and report back to the class.

Checking for Understanding:

Group Questions

Class Discussion

Summary Review:

Students will report their findings about the New Deal.

Evaluation:

Test at the end of the unit.

Equipment/Media/Materials

Books

Paper

Volunteer Voices picture of boys standing in front of the Alpine School.

<http://idserver.utk.edu/?id=200800000001398>

Information about the New Deal or internet access.

Assignment:

Questions from group activity and research about the New Deal.