



French and Indian War in Western Virginia

Objective: This lesson will help students understand the importance of Western Virginia to both the French and the British. The students will have a better comprehension of the reasons for the war and its outcomes.

GRADE LEVEL

Eighth Grade

TIME REQUIRED

Two to three class periods

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. What was life like in the mid-1700s?
2. Who were the key people involved with the war?
3. What incident started the war?
4. What was the final outcome of the war?

STRATEGIC VOCABULARY

treaty
conflict
procure
militia

LESSON ACTIVITIES

1. Have students brainstorm as a group to determine their background knowledge of life in the 1700s. Have them complete a word web and include items like clothing, weapons, housing etc. Then have them write their answers on the board so that the entire class can compare background knowledge.
2. Have the students each read the article on the French and Indian War at <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/2069> They need to pay close attention to the dates so that they can create a timeline of the war. There is also a link on the article page that will take them to a basic timeline. The students will need to add dates specific to the area of Western Virginia.
3. Have students create a six-sided cube using the attached diagram. They will identify important moments in the war and either print pictures or draw pictures to represent the battles.
4. Have the students write a letter as the governor of Virginia to General Washington instructing him to get the French out of the Ohio Valley. Have them convince General Washington that this is



necessary for the British.

5. Have students look at the map of Braddock's Road at <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/637>. Have students create their own map of the route by identifying key stops and explaining why this route was vital.
6. Have students use the computer to create a travel brochure from the perspective of the French or British inviting new settlers into Western Virginia.

WEST VIRGINIA NEXT GENERATION CONTENT STANDARDS AND OBJECTIVES

SOCIAL STUDIES

- SS.8.20: Demonstrate an understanding of the settlement of Western Virginia and the United States by Native Americans and Europeans.
- Differentiate between the cultures and daily life of the Native Americans.
 - Summarize the history of European exploration and settlement in western Virginia from the first endeavor of John Lederer through the settlement period including Morgan and other important explorers and settlers.
 - Explain the role of western Virginia in the French and Indian War.

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Cube Pattern
Cut on solid lines; fold on dotted lines



