



Fairs and Festivals in West Virginia

Objective: Students will compile lists of fairs and festivals that can be attributed to the influence of various cultural groups who have settled in the state. Students will learn about the heritage of fair and festivals and their significance to the preservation of history.

GRADE LEVEL

Eighth Grade

TIME REQUIRED

Three days

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. Why do the fairs/festivals exist?
2. What groups settled where the fairs/festivals are located?
3. Why would someone want to go to the fair/festival?

STRATEGIC VOCABULARY

fairs
festival
culture
preservation

LESSON ACTIVITIES

Day 1

1. Begin the lesson by posting and reviewing the guiding questions and strategic vocabulary. Each student should have a laptop or be in a computer lab.
2. Allow students to develop an understanding of the vocabulary by finding the definition of the words and how they are to use them.
3. Create a word wall with the strategic vocabulary.
4. Explain to the students that they are going to be creating a tourism brochure about fairs and festivals around the state of West Virginia. (The title of the brochure is to be “Fairs and Festivals in West Virginia.”)
5. Pass out the attached rubric so that students know how they are to be graded.
6. Pass out the examples of brochures that you have collected so students can see various formats they might use. Templates of brochures are also available on Microsoft Word and Publisher.



7. Have students access <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/> and search for fairs and festivals in West Virginia. (Students may choose three fairs or festivals for their brochure.) Here are some of the fairs and festivals included in *e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia*:
- Mountain State Art & Craft Fair: <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/1449>
 - West Virginia State Folk Festival: <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/1096>
 - State Fair of West Virginia: <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/563>
 - Vandalia Gathering: <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/858>
 - Stonewall Jackson Jubilee: <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/596>
 - Apple Butter Festival: <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/257>
 - Strawberry Festival: <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/604>
 - Italian Heritage Festival: <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/917>
 - Webster County Woodchopping Festival: <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/951>
 - West Virginia Water Festival: <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/1131>
 - Mountain State Forest Festival: <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/1514>
 - Preston County Buckwheat Festival: <http://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/1916>
8. Students may need to access other websites for pictures of some of the fairs or festivals.

Day 2

1. Begin the lesson by reviewing the guiding questions and strategic vocabulary. Each student should have a laptop or be in a computer lab.
2. Direct students back to the rubric to ensure they are getting all the information into the brochure that is required.
3. Allow students to continue working and complete the brochure.
4. Once students finish, they can print their brochures, or send them to you as an email attachment so that you can print them.

Day 3

1. Begin the lesson by reviewing the guiding questions and strategic vocabulary.
2. Have students present their brochures to the class, turning in their brochures and rubrics once they have finished.
3. Place/hang the brochures in the room for all to see.
4. Students can take the rest of class to look at other brochures and see if there are fairs/festivals they would like to visit.

WEST VIRGINIA NEXT GENERATION CONTENT STANDARDS AND OBJECTIVES

SOCIAL STUDIES

SS.8.26: Demonstrate an understanding of West Virginia in the modern era.

- Compile lists of fairs and festivals in West Virginia that can be attributed to the influence of various cultural groups who have settled in the state, explaining the heritage of the fair or festival



and its significance to the preservation of West Virginia history.

Analyze the economic, social and political impact of the late twentieth century and twenty-first century events on West Virginia (e.g., terrorism, Gulf War, Iraq War and War in Afghanistan).

SS.8.1: Demonstrate patriotism through the planning, participation and observance of important anniversaries and remembrances (e.g., Pearl Harbor, Veterans' Day, Constitution Day and Patriots Day)..

SS.8.9: Research and cite industries and products that are vital to the economy of the four regions of West Virginia both past and present, and categorize the related occupations (e.g., tourism, coal, glass, timber, chemical, oil, natural gas, agriculture service industries and gaming).

SS.8.6: Label the four major physical geographic regions, major rivers, landforms, natural/manmade borders, points of interest and bordering states on selected maps.

SS.8.17: Analyze the geographic factors that led to development of agricultural, coal, glass, chemical, metallurgic and tourism industries in West Virginia (e.g., floods and coal mining disasters).

SS.8.19: Identify the nine distinct tourist regions in the state of West Virginia and analyze which geographic factors influence each region

Lesson plan Created by Chris Lewis, Hamilton Middle School, cmlewis@access.k12.wv.us.





Brochure: Fairs and Festivals in West Virginia

85 Points

Name(s):	
Geography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location of fair/festival. • Pictures of the location/festival. 	/10
History <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why does this fair/festival exist? • What groups settled where this fair/festival takes place? 	/15
Literacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain how and why the groups settled where they did. • Why would someone want to go to the fair/festival? 	/30
Bibliography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 sources. • Must include <i>e-WV</i> 	/30
Total	/85

Comments:







