

Teacher: Michelle Snouffer
Subject: US History I

Lesson Time: Two 50-Minute Periods
Time Period: Day 6 and 7

Lesson Plan

Overview:	This lesson is designed for 8 th grade students of varying ability levels, including those placed on IEPs and/or other learning plans.
Lesson Title:	Political Cartoons of the American Revolution
Prerequisites:	Students must have general working knowledge of the events causing American hatred towards British policies, such as the Stamp Act, Townsend Acts, Boston Massacre, Tea Act, and Boston Tea Party.

Lesson Objectives

In this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Interpret a political cartoon from the American Revolution era.

Procedure

Students will examine a series of traditional newspaper comics. They will determine what makes them funny. Then they will examine several present-day political cartoons and determine what the artist uses as symbols. Finally, students will examine several political cartoons from the American Revolution, taken from a Chicago Historical Society lab titled "History Through Opposing Eyes: America and Protest."

Materials

1. Overheads and copies of political cartoons and comics of the instructor's choosing.
2. The following websites are useful for this exercise:
www.indiana.edu/~liblilly/cartoon/images/revere.jpg
<http://newdeal.feri.org/classrm/images/snake.gif>
www.chicagohs.org/history_through_opposing_lesson_3pdf

Activities

Group discussion of political symbols in present-day cartoons. Students will then engage in a guided activity in which they must interpret Revolutionary cartoons.

Assessment

1. Students will take a short quiz in which they answer questions on a cartoon of *The Horse America, throwing his Master*, from www.oswego.oeg/testprep/ss5/b/causerev2li.cfm
2. Students will design a political cartoon of their own based on the unit they are studying.

Curriculum Standards

USI.1: Explain the political and economic factors that contributed to the American Revolution.
USI.4: Analyze how Americans resisted British policies before 1775 and analyze the reasons for the American victory and the British defeat during the Revolutionary War.