



California Cesar E. Chavez Model Curriculum - Grade 4

Source: <http://chavez.cde.ca.gov/ModelCurriculum/Teachers/index1.aspx>

Theme: California: A Changing State

- This unit of study contains special attention to the role of labor in industry and agriculture, including how Cesar E. Chaves, through nonviolent tactics, educated the general public about the working conditions in agriculture and led the movement to improve the lives of farm workers. .

Key Skills

- Gathering, Using, and Interpreting Evidence
- Comparison and Contextualization

Key Standard

- *Standard 4.2*
 - Students describe the social, political, cultural, and economic life and interactions among people of California from pre-Colombian societies to the Spanish mission and Mexican Rancho Periods

Staging Question: Discuss examples of farming effects everyday life.

Supporting Question: How are today's farms influenced by Californian history?

Formative Performance Task: List initial contacts points between the Spanish and Californian pre-Colombian societies, initial Franciscan missions, and transition into statehood.

Featured Source: https://www.ducksters.com/works_cited/state_history.php

Standards Based CQ Implementation: A timeline of Californian history from the 16th through 19th centuries.

Staging the Compelling Question

The compelling question may be staged by having the students discuss examples experiences at grocery stores and local farmers market. For example, students may be asked for a favorite fruit or vegetable. If a student mentions avocados, a discussion can be brought up of the farms of southern California. If a student mentions apples or pears, the instructor can direct the discussion to northern California.

The Supporting Question

The supporting question -- "How are today's farms influenced by Californian history?" -- helps students build a background understanding of what led to the the agricultural communities of modern California at the middle of the 20th century.. The formative performance task calls on students to list the political, social, and economic conditions that lead to the layout of farms across the state due to initial Spanish contact, mission settlement, and eventual statehood.

Standards Based CQ Implementation

A timeline of Californian history from the 16th through 19th centuries broken out into major periods of state history.

An instructor can assign one of the following categories to a group of students for research:

Category	Description
<i>Pre-Columbian Californians</i>	California has been inhabited for thousands of years. When Europeans first arrived there were a number of pre-columbian tribes in the area including the Chumash, Mohave, Yuma, Pomo, and Maidu. They were often separated by geography such as mountain ranges and desserts. As a result, they had different cultures and languages from the Native Americans to the east, and therefore farmed staples.
<i>Europeans Arrive</i>	A Spanish ship captained by Portuguese explorer Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo was the first to visit California in 1542. Several years later, in 1579, English Explorer Sir Francis Drake landed on the coast near San Francisco and claimed the land for England. However, the

	land was far away from Europe and European settlement didn't really begin for another 200 years.
<i>Spanish Missions</i>	In 1769, the Spanish began to build missions in California. They built 21 missions along the coast in an effort to convert the Native Americans to Catholicism. They also built forts called presidios and small towns called pueblos. One of the presidios to the south became the city of San Diego while a mission built to the north would later become the city of Los Angeles.
<i>Part of Mexico</i>	When Mexico gained its independence from Spain in 1821, California became a province of the country of Mexico. Under Mexican rule, large cattle ranches and farms called ranchos were settled in the region.
<i>The Bear Republic</i>	By the 1840s, many settlers were moving to California from the east. They arrived using the Oregon Trail and the California Trail. Soon these settlers began to rebel against Mexican rule. In 1846, settlers led by John Fremont revolted against the Mexican government and declared their own independent country called the Bear Flag Republic.
<i>Becoming a State</i>	The Bear Republic didn't last long. That same year, in 1846, the United States and Mexico went to war in the Mexican-American War. When the war ended in 1848, California became a territory of the United States. Two years later, on September 9, 1850, California was admitted into the Union as the 31st state.