

“Florida Annotated/Illustrated Map”-Lesson Plan

Summary

In this lesson, students will become better-acquainted with Florida’s geographical features, as well as the historical significance of some of the state’s largest population centers.

Objectives:

- 1.) Students will work in pairs to label a blank map of Florida with ten physical features and ten population centers;
- 2.) Students will illustrate and annotate individual maps with pictures/drawings to show historical significance of population centers;
- 3.) Students will draw conclusions as to the importance of waterways to settlement.

U.S. History Period

This activity covers many different eras of US History from exploration and settlement, to the late 20th century, and how the state of Florida has been affected by these historical forces.

Grade Level

Elementary or middle school

Materials

To effectively implement this lesson, you will need the following materials:

- AAA Florida Road Maps (call the Lakeland office at 863/688-7921, or the Winter Haven office at 863/293-3151)- one map for each pair of students
- Florida Outline Map for each student that can be printed from

<http://fcit.usf.edu/florida/maps/outline01/outline01.htm>

- Twenty Map Hunt Questions and list of possible answers (included with this lesson)
- Pencils, colored pencils, and highlighters for each student
- Transparency of Florida Outline Map (optional)
- Transparency of Miami (Then & Now) for class Preview Question- included

Lesson Time

This lesson should be completed in one block period or two regular class periods (one-and-a-half hours).

Lesson

Lesson Procedures

- 1.) As students enter your classroom, have them sit in mixed-ability pairs according to a classroom map on the overhead projector.
- 2.) For a **Preview Question**, show the students a transparency of two pictures of Miami, one from the early 1900s and the other from the late 20th century (picture of early 20th-century Miami can be found at <http://fpc.dos.state.fl.us/reference/rc00125b.jpg>; late 20th-century Miami picture can be found at <http://www.statejobs.com/miami.jpg>). Have your students list as many differences that they can infer from the two pictures. After 5 minutes, lead a short class discussion on the visual differences between the two pictures of Miami and the impact that population growth has had on Miami and Florida as a whole. Finally, ask your students which picture, in their minds, shows the true Florida and have them explain their answers (depending on your class size and make-up, the appropriate time to put students in pairs and move desks around may be after this discussion).
- 3.) After partner assignments are successfully completed, pass out a AAA Florida Road Map and Map Hunt Questions to each pair. Give each student a copy of the Florida Outline Map. Explain to students that they will be using the maps and questions to guide themselves on a “virtual” tour of Florida’s major physical features and population centers. While completing this assignment, they will also be learning about the history of settlement in different parts of Florida. Each student is to work with their partner to find the answers to the Map Hunt Questions (point out that answer choices are provided). When both partners agree on the location of a correct answer, they are to label their map with that location. Students should label their maps in pencil, and for the physical features, should draw them on their maps. For instance, each student’s map should show each river in its entirety, and should label the Everglades to show how expansive and swampy it is. If your students are not experienced with road maps, you may want to give them all a brief introduction and model for them how to find different locations using the map’s grid system, legend, scale, and index of points of interest.
- 4.) After locating and labeling ten physical features and ten population centers, students should trace all rivers with a blue colored pencil and highlight all physical feature names with one highlighter. Population center names should be highlighted with another color.
- 5.) Based on the descriptions and brief histories of each population center, each student should draw and color a small symbol that represents that population center. Allow students to also include at least two features that were not mentioned in their Map Hunt Questions (for example, the location of their favorite college or university) and draw a symbol for those as well. Some students may wish to find small pictures on the Internet to cut out and glue to their maps. Allow students to take their maps home and finish labeling and coloring symbols.
- 6.) Towards the end of class, debrief the lesson with the following questions: “Why are most population centers in Florida located near major rivers or bodies of water? (Possible answers could include shipment of goods, arrival/departure point for travelers, survival needs such as freshwater and game, and because there are not many places in Florida not near water); “Why are there no major population centers in the Everglades? (Possible answers could include that it is too swampy for many people to reside there, too many pests, too hot, and the ground is not solid enough for major roads for the transport of people and goods); “Why do you think Cape Canaveral was chosen as NASA’s test site/launching point? (Possible answers could include proximity to the ocean so if something explodes it will fall in to the water, not extremely close to population centers, or because it is an isolated area where top-secret experiments can be carried out)”

Activities

Preview Activity



Miami- early 1900's



Miami- early 21st century

Map Hunt Questions-use these questions, answer options, and road maps to label your Florida Outline Maps

Physical Features

-
- 1.) The large ocean located off of the east coast of Florida is the _____
_____.
-
- 2.) The large body of saltwater found west of Florida is the _____ _
_____.
-
- 3.) The river that flows north from central Florida, past Sanford, and through Jacksonville on its way to the Atlantic Ocean is the _____
_____.
-
- 4.) The narrow saltwater passage between Florida and Cuba are the _____
_____.
-
- 5.) The largest freshwater lake in Florida, located northwest from Miami, is _____
_____.
-
- 6.) The _____ _____ are a string of 882 islands extending southwest from the southern tip of Florida.
-
- 7.) The river that forms part of Florida's northeastern border with Georgia is the _____
_____.
-
- 8.) The extensive swampy area that covers large portions of the southern part of Florida is known as the _____.
-
- 9.) The river that flows southward from the Okefenokee Swamp in Georgia to the Gulf of Mexico is the _____
_____. (HINT: this river is mentioned in the first line of the state song, "Old Folks at Home")
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- 10.) This river begins where the Chatahoochee and Flint Rivers flow into Lake Seminole on the Florida-Alabama-Georgia border. It flows south through the Florida Panhandle on the way to its mouth on the Gulf of Mexico. It is also the boundary line between the Eastern and Central Time Zones. It is the _____
_____.

Population Centers

11.) This is the oldest city in the United States. It was settled by Spanish explorers in 1565 and is located in the northeastern part of the state, approximately 25 miles south from the mouth of the St. John's River. It is _____.

12.) This city, named for the seventh president of the United States, straddles the St. John's River near the Atlantic Ocean. This is where French explorers built Fort Caroline in 1562 in an attempt to gain a foothold in Spanish Florida. Spanish soldiers executed most of the French settlers in 1565. This city is known today as _____.

13.) The state capital since the 1820's, this was once the site of a large Seminole trading village. It is _____.

14.) The city of _____ is near the Florida-Alabama border at the Perdido and Escambia Rivers. Spanish explorers tried to settle this area in 1559, but were unsuccessful and then concentrated on Florida's east coast.

15.) This city on the mouth of the Hillsborough River was a small village before Henry Plant built an extension of his railroad here in 1884. Vicente M. Ybor soon relocated his cigar business and most of his workers here, too. Now it is home to over a quarter-of-a-million people, making it the state's 3rd-most populated city. It is also home to the champions of Super Bowl XXXVII. It is _____.

16.) This island city is located toward the western-most edge of the Florida Keys. It was an important strategic position for the Spanish Empire centuries ago, and is now world-famous as a tropical paradise. This city is _____.

17.) In 1895, only a few hundred people lived in what was then a small fishing village named for the river that flowed through it. With the addition of Henry Flagler's railroad, it soon became a thriving metropolis and tourist destination. Now _____ is the location of several TV shows and the center of Florida's most populated area.

18.) _____ is located on a piece of land that juts out into the Atlantic Ocean. It is also known as the Space Capital of the World, and is the headquarters of NASA. Hundreds of rockets and shuttle flights have begun at this point 120 miles south of St. Augustine.

19.) Located on the I4 Corridor about 45 miles northeast of Polk County, _____ is the unofficial capital of the Florida tourism industry. Home to many attractions, including Sea World and Universal Studios, it is most well-known around the world for being in close proximity to the Kingdom of the Mouse.

20.) Only 50 miles south of St. Augustine is _____, which claims to be the world's most famous beach. Thousands of high-school and college students spend Spring Break here every year. In fact, so many people visit this beach that cars are actually allowed to drive and park on the beach!

Answer Sheet

Physical Features

Suwanee River

Florida Keys

Lake Okeechobee

Atlantic Ocean

Apalachicola River

St. John's River

Straits of Florida

St. Mary's River

Gulf of Mexico

Everglades

Population Centers

Tampa

Miami

Daytona Beach

Key West

Cape Canaveral

Pensacola

St. Augustine

Tallahassee

Orlando

Jacksonville

Homework Assignments

- 1) Give your students the following scenario: Governor Bush has decided that there need to be more options for the back of the Florida state quarter for another vote. Have your students create and color their own designs based on the information learned in class during this activity. Inform your students that there will be a class vote at the beginning of the next class period. Offer a first, second, and third prize for the “winning” entry, and display all entries in a prominent location in the classroom. You can even have each student present their entry to the class and have them explain why they created their original design.
- 2) Have your students use other sources to research the local histories of one or two population centers on their map (from a Map Hunt Question or one that they added), and present their findings to the class.
- 3) Have your students plan an itinerary for a road trip across the state of Florida. Using the AAA Road Maps or an atlas of Florida, have them describe the routes taken, the driving times and distances, and at least six attractions that they would like to visit. Each student should include pictures of each “stop” on their trek across Florida.
- 4) Students work in pairs or individually to produce a travel brochure including the items labeled on their illustrated maps. They should explain what population they’re trying to attract to Florida, and for what reason (jobs, tourism, business relocation, etc.). Brochures should be folded and include drawn or cut-out pictures in full-color (unless they were originally black-and-white).

Assessment

Use the “Florida Map Quiz” for a follow-up. Allow students to use their completed maps and Map Hunt Questions if you prefer, or have them label another map (with rivers, lakes, and population centers already drawn).

Florida Map Quiz

- 1.) The river that flows north from central Florida, past Sanford, and through Jacksonville on its way to the Atlantic Ocean is the _____.
- 2.) The largest freshwater lake in Florida, located northwest from Miami, is _____.
- 3.) The large ocean located off of the east coast of Florida is the _____.
- 4.) The large body of saltwater found west of Florida is the _____.
- 5.) The extensive swampy area that covers large portions of the southern part of Florida is known as the _____.
- 6.) This city on the mouth of the Hillsborough River was a small village before Henry Plant built an extension of his railroad here in 1884. Vicente M. Ybor soon relocated his cigar business and most of his workers here, too. Now it is home to over a quarter-of-a-million people, making it the state’s 3rd-most populated city. It is also home to the champions of Super Bowl XXXVII. It is _____.
- 7.) This is the oldest city in the United States. It was settled by Spanish explorers in 1565 and is located in the northeastern part of the state, approximately 25 miles south from the mouth of the St. John’s River. It is _____.
- 8.) In 1895, only a few hundred people lived in what was then a small fishing village named for the river that flowed through it. With the addition of Henry Flagler’s railroad, it soon became a thriving metropolis and tourist destination. Now _____ is the location of several TV shows and the center of Florida’s most populated area.
- 9.) Located on the I4 Corridor about 45 miles northeast of Polk County, _____ is the unofficial capital of the Florida tourism industry. Home to many attractions, including Sea World and Universal Studios, it is most well-known around the world for being in close proximity to the Kingdom of the Mouse.
- 10.) This city, named for the seventh president of the United States, straddles the St. John’s River near the Atlantic Ocean. This is where French explorers built Fort Caroline in 1562 in an attempt to gain a foothold in Spanish Florida. Spanish soldiers executed most of the French settlers in 1565. This city is known today as _____.

Resources

AAA Road Maps

<http://fcit.usf.edu/florida/default.htm> -online resources of Florida maps and other materials

<http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/flafacts/city.html> -name origins of Florida communities

<http://dlis.dos.state.fl.us/stlib/flhist.html> -Florida history links

<http://www.ohwy.com/fl/f/flcity.htm> -information on Florida cities

<http://www.webcoast.com/history.htm> -county histories of the Tampa Bay area

<http://www.awesomeflorida.com/history.htm> -timeline of Florida history

http://www.gofloridavacations.com/florida_articles.html -articles and histories on various Florida cities

http://www.floridasmart.com/subjects/history_fl.htm -links to Florida history sites

http://www.flcities.com/membership/my_city_facts.asp -Florida facts