

Mark Twain Boyhood Home & Museum

Lesson Plan for Introducing Families to Mark Twain
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School: Sunflower Elementary, Paola, KS - USD #368
July 8-12, 2013 – Summer Teachers Workshop
Hannibal, Missouri

LESSON PLAN for Connecting Families with School using *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*

Concept or Topic: Introduce students/families to the author, Mark Twain through an abridged version of <i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i> . Big Idea: Promote reading classic literature (<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>) through home/school activities.	Suggested Grade Level: Grades 3 through 5
Subject: English Language Arts (ELA Common Core Standards)	Suggested Time Frame: Two weeks
Objective(s): (At school, prior to this at home reading, students will be introduced to Hannibal, Missouri and the early life of Samuel Clemens/Mark Twain.) Students will read and discuss <i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i> at home with family members and return signed reading log. The students/families will complete at least two activities from Tic-Tac-Twain and return completed projects to classroom teachers.	
Common Core Standards: 3 rd Grade CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1 Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.3 Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events. 4 th Grade CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.1 Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.3 Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).	

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[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.4](#) Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including those that allude to significant characters found in mythology (e.g., Herculean)

5th Grade

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.1](#) Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.3](#) Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.4](#) Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.6](#) Describe how a narrator's or speaker's point of view influences how events are described.

Assessment Options:

(Prior to the connection to home reading of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* the student body will watch a staff-made video, "Where's Samuel L. Clemens/Mark Twain?" Staff made a video depicting a Mark Twain puppet in various locations in Hannibal, Missouri to introduce students to Samuel L. Clemens.)

Students (with parents) will complete a reading log and return to school (attached below).

Students will complete at least two blocks on the Tic-Tac-Twain Sheet (attached below).

Vocabulary:

- Abridged - teacher will explain to students when giving students *Tom Sawyer: In Easy-to-Read Type* that the book is an abridged version of the book *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.

Subject Area Integration:

- Language arts
- History/social studies
- Music
- Art
- Technology

Background Information:

Websites

The Mark Twain Boyhood Home & Museum

<http://www.marktwainmuseum.org/media/Teachers%20Resource%20Guide.pdf>

Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources: <http://www.loc.gov/teachers/tps/>

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Kids Discover <http://www.kidsdiscover.com/mark-twain-for-kids>

Mark Twain Biography for Kids http://mnrussbaum.com/authors/mark_twain/

Youtube Tour Hannibal, MO www.youtube.com/watch?v=vljrGO2JgyY

Youtube Tour Hannibal, MO http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O0fh2p_NUY

Audio

Mark Twain: Words & Music CD (2011)

Jimmy Buffett, Clint Eastwood, Angela Lovell, Garrison Keillor, Emmylou Harris, Doyle Lawson, Rhonda Vincent, Bradley Walker, Carl Jackson, Sheryl Crow, Brad Paisley, Marty Raybon, Val Storey, Vince Gill, Joe Diffie, and Ricky Skaggs.
Mark Twain Home Foundation, 2011. CD.

Books

Biographies on Samuel L. Clemens/Mark Twain found in the Sunflower Elementary Library Media Center:

Ashmore, Wayne and Jennifer Nault. *Mark Twain*. New York: Weigl Publishers, Inc., 2009.

Burleigh, Robert. *The Adventures of Mark Twain by Huckleberry Finn*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2011.

Harness, Cheryl. *Mark Twain and the Queen of the Mississippi*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1998.

Kerley, Barbara. *The Extraordinary Mark Twain (according to Suzy)*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2010.

MacLeod, Elizabeth. *Mark Twain: An American Star*. Tonawanda: Kids Can Press, 2008.

McNeer, May. *America's Mark Twain*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1962.

Prince, April Jones. *Who Was Mark Twain*. New York: Grosset & Dunlap, 2004.

Tieck, Sarah. *Mark Twain*. Edina: ABDO Publishing Company, 2010.

Possible tools to augment lesson:

Help 4 Teachers

<http://help4teachers.com/tomsawyer.htm> This document is a layered curriculum project designed by Meiji Smith, 5th grade Language Arts regular and GT, Patricia Sanguinetti, 5th grade Resource, and Sue Tuttle, Life Skills, at Arlon Seay Intermediate School (San Antonio, TX). It is designed for the inclusive classroom with student abilities ranging from

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life skills to gifted and talented.

Core Knowledge Conference

http://www.coreknowledge.org/mimik/mimik_uploads/lesson_plans/671/An%20Adventure%20with%20Tom%20Sawyer.pdf appendix worksheet and lessons

Rasmussen, R. Kent. *Mark Twain For Kids: His Life & Times - 21 Activities*. Chicago: Chicago Review Press, Incorporated, 2004.

Twain, Mark, and Caroline Thomas Harnsberger. *Mark Twain at Your Fingertips: A Book of Quotations*. Mineola, NY: Dover Publications, 2009

After watching the Disney movie of Tom Sawyer classroom teacher could have students compare the movie to the book. Students would evaluate and defend their choice.

Materials/Resources/Technology:

Materials


Reading Log (attached)

Tic-Tac-Twain (attached)

Twain, Mark. *Tom Sawyer: In Easy-to-Read Type*. Mineola NY: Dover Publications, Inc., 1996. (Each family will be given a copy by Sunflower Elementary.)

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Name _____

Home Reading Log 

Weekend	Chapter # _____ Pages _____	Reading Minutes _____
	Summary or Reflections _____ _____ _____ Fun words: _____	Parent Signature _____
Monday	Chapter # _____ Pages _____	Reading Minutes _____
	Summary or Reflections _____ _____ _____ Fun words: _____	Parent Signature _____
Tuesday	Chapter # _____ Pages _____	Reading Minutes _____
	Summary or Reflections _____ _____ _____ Fun words: _____	Parent Signature _____
Wednesday	Chapter # _____ Pages _____	Reading Minutes _____
	Summary or Reflections _____ _____ _____ Fun words: _____	Parent Signature _____
Thursday	Chapter # _____ Pages _____	Reading Minutes _____
	Summary or Reflections _____ _____ _____ Fun words: _____	Parent Signature _____

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Tic-Tac-Twain



<p>1. Create a comic strip with dialogue using at least 3 of your “fun” words from your reading log.</p>	<p>2. Construct a map of Tom Sawyer’s hometown, St. Petersburg. Plot and label at least the five locations mentioned in the book.</p>	<p>3. Interpret a scene from the story using any medium (puppets, skits, reader’s theater, Claymation, etc.).</p>
<p>4. Choose two characters from the story and list five character traits for each.</p>	<p>5. Free Choice (Teacher Approved)</p>	<p>6. Explain why Tom Sawyer was a “glittering hero” after the trial.</p>
<p>7. Research Samuel L. Clemens’ life. Compare and contrast his childhood to Tom Sawyer’s childhood using a Venn diagram.</p>	<p>8. Select your favorite chapter in the book; create a diorama and include a summary of that chapter.</p>	<p>9. Investigate and develop a PowerPoint or Keynote presentation on Hannibal, Missouri or the Mississippi River.</p>

Directions: Choose at least two blocks from the Tic-Tac-Twain to do with your family and return completed activities to your teacher. (Families could choose to read their own unabridged copy of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and complete at least two blocks.)

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Resources

Twain, Mark, and R. Kent. Rasmussen. *The Quotable Mark Twain: His Essential Aphorisms, Witticisms & Concise Opinions*. Lincolnwood, Ill., U.S.A.: Contemporary, 1997.

Twain, Mark, and Caroline Thomas Harnsberger. *Mark Twain at Your Fingertips: A Book of Quotations*. Mineola, NY: Dover Publications, 2009

Technology

Websites from background:

The Mark Twain Boyhood Home & Museum

<http://www.marktwainmuseum.org/media/Teachers%20Resource%20Guide.pdf>

Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources: <http://www.loc.gov/teachers/tps/>

Kids Discover <http://www.kidsdiscover.com/mark-twain-for-kids>

Mark Twain Biography for Kids http://mrmussbaum.com/authors/mark_twain/

Youtube Tour Hannibal, MO www.youtube.com/watch?v=vljrGO2JgyY

Youtube Tour Hannibal, MO http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O0fh2p_NUY

Students can use a variety of technology tools to access primary resources and research blocks from Tic-Tac-Twain. Students can choose to use technology tools to complete blocks from Tic-Tac-Twain. Teachers can use Smart Boards to provide background information to students.

Quotes:

Suggested quotes for the morning announcements to be read the two weeks of the all school Mark Twain unit. Teacher may use the quote as bell work by having students determine the meaning Mark Twain was trying to convey.

“If books are not good company, where will I find it?” p. 31 *The Quotable Mark Twain: His Essential Aphorism, Witticism & Concise Opinions* Edited by R. Kent Rasmussen

“Fools who never wrote a book are always giving me their infernal advice about how to write a book...” p. 303 *The Quotable Mark Twain: His Essential Aphorism, Witticism & Concise Opinions* Edited by R. Kent Rasmussen

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“Now, then, that is the tale. Some of it is true.” p. 19 *The Quotable Mark Twain: His Essential Aphorism, Witticism & Concise Opinions* Edited by R. Kent Rasmussen

“To promise not to do a thing is the surest way in the world to make a body want to go and do the very thing.” p. 223 *The Quotable Mark Twain: His Essential Aphorism, Witticism & Concise Opinions* Edited by R. Kent Rasmussen (From *Tom Sawyer*, unabridged chapter 22)

“There’s only one Tom Sawyer, and the mould’s busted.” -Mr. Baxter “*Tom Sawyer’s Conspiracy*” p. 247 *The Quotable Mark Twain: His Essential Aphorism, Witticism & Concise Opinions* Edited by R. Kent Rasmussen

“Learning softeneth the heart and breedeth gentleness and charity.” -Prince Edward *Prince & Pauper* p. 86 *The Quotable Mark Twain: His Essential Aphorism, Witticism & Concise Opinions* Edited by R. Kent Rasmussen

“The best way to cheer yourself is to try to cheer somebody else up.” p. 41 *Mark Twain At Your Fingertips: A Book of Quotations* Compiled & Edited by Caroline Thomas Harnsberger

“...great books are weighed and measured by their style and matter and not by the trimmings and shadings of their grammar.” p. 159 *Mark Twain At Your Fingertips: A Book of Quotations* Compiled & Edited by Caroline Thomas Harnsberger

“One learns peoples through the heart, not the eyes or the intellect.” p. 176 *Mark Twain At Your Fingertips: A Book of Quotations* Compiled & Edited by Caroline Thomas Harnsberger

“Humor is mankind’s greatest blessing.” p. 188 *Mark Twain At Your Fingertips: A Book of Quotations* Compiled & Edited by Caroline Thomas Harnsberger

“The proper office of a friend is to side with you when you are in the wrong. Nearly anybody will side with you when you are in the right.” p. 135 *Mark Twain At Your Fingertips: A Book of Quotations* Compiled & Edited by Caroline Thomas Harnsberger

Culminating Activity:

Students who return signed reading log and two activities from Tic-Tac-Twain will earn the opportunity to watch school-wide showing of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Disney.