

Mark Twain Boyhood Home & Museum
 Lesson Plan for *Adventures of Tom Sawyer*
 Created by: Cindy Wolff, Deena Irwin, Tracy Strayhorn
 School: Wright City, Wentzville, David Lipscomb: State: MO and TN
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LESSON PLAN FOR THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER	
Concept or Topic: Creative Writing/Reporting	Suggested Grade Level: Middle School (can be modified for other levels)
Subject: Communication Arts	Suggested Time Frame: 5-10 Days
<p>Objective(s):</p> <p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define/explain journalistic terms and vocabulary • Model the structure of news articles • Produce and publish written work, using appropriate technology • Analyze and assess the information and ideas gathered from a variety of print and electronic sources • Develop keyboarding skills • Develop peer editing and proof reading skills 	
State Standards: Missouri Communication Arts R 6-9	
<p>Assessment Options: This is a culminating activity in which students will work cooperatively creating a local newspaper which accurately reflects the era of Tom Sawyer. The students will be assessed by group as well as individually. See attached scoring guide.</p> <p>Scoring guide for group: http://www.ri.net/vidcon/PK/Cooperative%20Learning%20Project%20Rubric%20A.doc</p> <p>Scoring guide for individual: http://alex.state.al.us/uploads/11703/Newspaper%20Article%20Rubric.htm</p>	
Vocabulary: Students will be expected to use period vocabulary accurately which will be pulled from a list they have created during the reading of the book.	
Subject Area Integration: Social studies, Art, PE	

LESSON PLAN FOR *THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER*

Background Information: Reading and thorough understanding of Tom Sawyer and exposure to a variety of newspaper formats. A field trip will be arranged with the local newspaper and/or a newspaper journalist, editor, illustrator will be invited to speak to the class.

Materials:

- *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*
- Vocabulary List
- Computer and suggested websites
- Paper
- Writing/Drawing Instruments
- Access to Library (for research)

Technology:

Students will use the computer for research and to create their newspaper article as well as combining it into the final product. They will use fonts that reflect the time period.

Google: Images 1850s newspapers

Website for Newspaper Template: <http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/creating-classroom-newspaper-249.html>

Related Twain Quotes/Passages:

The old saw says, "Let sleeping dogs lie." Right. Still when there is much at stake it is better to get a newspaper to do it. - *Following the Equator*
www.twainquotes.com

Lesson Sequence: (include approximate length of time for each part of the lesson)

Hook/Intro: Visit a newspaper or have speakers come to class. Students will view examples from an 1800s newspaper. (1 Day)

Teaching of the Concept: Students will choose a favorite scene from the novel and begin creating that scene into a newspaper article retelling it their own words. Students will be grouped based on their scene selection. (2-3 Days)

Suggested Questions:

- When you look at a newspaper, what do you see?
- As a reporter what kinds of questions would you ask? (who, what, when, where?)
- As a reader, what do you want to know?

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Learning Activity: Students will choose which scene from the book that they will report. They will be grouped cooperatively by scene selection. They will then develop their story through quotes, vocabulary, and interview. They will illustrate, edit, and revise their story. Each student will individually develop one of the following in addition to their article: advertisement, marriage/birth announcement, coming attractions, sports/games, letters to the editor, advice column, arrest report, classifieds (employment, real estate, animals, etc.) (1-2 Days)

Review/Closure: Compiling, printing, and release of newspaper. Each student will receive an issue and the issues will be shared by displaying them in the school halls. (3-5 Days)

Homework: Completion of their individual article assignments.

Strategies for Exceptional Students: Groups will be heterogeneously mixed to ensure support.

Suggested Follow-Up Activities:

- A grade level contest will be conducted to name the newspaper. This format can be adapted to assess other books read during the year.
- Create a regular class newspaper, blog, etc.
- Maintain a Current Events bulletin board (run by students) to reinforce the importance of being aware of news events.
- Incorporate Newspapers in Education (NIE) into the class activities.
- Visit a newsroom or invite a journalist or editor to the classroom.
- Write editorials on a topic important to students; submit to local papers.