

Lesson Title: Meeker Mansion History

Grade Level: 4 th	Subject: Social Studies
Central Focus: Meeker History and Timeline Creation	Class Period: Estimated Duration: ~60min
Where does lesson occur? Before visiting the Mansion	Grouping: Whole group, table group
Prior knowledge, skills an/or experiences needed: Ability to read and comprehend informational texts, how to choose important details, draw clear pictures	

GLE's or Performance Expectation Addressed (add Common Core Standards with district adoption):

EALR 4.1.1: Understands and creates timelines to show how historical events are organized into time periods and eras

Learning Objectives:

Students will: read informational texts about the Meekers and the Mansion, choose important details and dates from the text, and create a timeline outlining those dates.

Targets for Students:

Objectives rephrased in student friendly language: I can create a timeline that includes important details about the Meekers and their Mansion.

Assessment Strategies (formative and summative):

Formative: Walking around classroom, asking students clarifying questions as to why they think a certain detail is important

Summative: The timeline and presentation

Student Feedback Strategies:

"I like the way Bobby is highlighting the important information within his text; now he needs to begin forming his timeline."

Academic Language Demands:

Function/form:

Vocabulary: Timeline, Meeker

Language supports:

For ELL students, I would partner them with bilingual students who can help translate difficult words or passages from the text. I could also have students read the passages aloud to let learners who may not be good at reading still comprehend the text.

Accommodations and/or modifications:

The texts can be translated into different languages if necessary. Groups will be a mix of all-levels of learners.

Materials Needed (include technology)

- Table group timeline paper
- Portion of time texts (enough for each table group)
- Colored pencils/markers etc to create timeline

Teaching Plan:

Time	Teacher Behavior	Student Behavior	Assessment to monitor learning
Opening of Lesson			
1min	Introduce the lesson and the future field trip of going to Meeker Mansion. Ask if anyone knows who/what Ezra Meeker and the Mansion are.	Listen quietly. Share knowledge of Meekers.	Looking for engaged students. Answering questions.
2min	Give a quick overview of who the Meekers were and what they did: "Ezra and Eliza Meeker came from Indiana to Washington on the Oregon trail and made their new life. In that new life, they lived in many different towns, built a spectacular mansion, founded a city, met some very important	Listen quietly.	Looking for engaged students.

	people, and much more!"		
Body of Lesson (may want additional rows to make your steps explicit)			
1min	Explain how today we all we make a timeline about the Meeker's life and the different life events that happened. Each table group will be assigned a portion of time to read about and become experts on. They will then use their new knowledge to create a timeline using only the important details from their text.	Listen and respond to questions about what timelines are and what important details are.	Engaged in discussion about timelines and important details.
2min	Discuss with the class what important details mean. Do an example on the board and circle the important details. (In DATE, Ezra Meeker farmed the hops crop and made lots of money. He liked being a farmer.)	What do important details mean? Raise hand and respond to what the important details are in the example on the board.	Engaged in doing the important details example on board.
10min	Distribute texts to each table group and have them read and underline the important information silently. Once everyone is finished, talk as a table group to see which information is important.	Work in table groups and read passage quietly while underlining important information. Discuss with table group about the important details.	Circulate classroom looking for students who are reading and underlining important info. Listen to the table group discussions about their portion of time.
20min	Create a timeline with	Work together in	Assess the timelines

	your important information and draw pictures that show your information.	groups to make the timeline. Assign jobs for writing, drawing, finding information, etc	to make sure everyone is working together, and the information is all correct and on the timeline.
2min	Once finished, tape your timeline on the whiteboard according to where it is in decades.	Post on whiteboard and then read quietly or do activity about Oregon Trail.	Looking for students quietly reading or posting timeline on whiteboard.
Closure and end of lesson			
20min	After all groups are finished, each group will be the teacher and share what they learned about their portion of time.	Present with group on what they learned about their portion of time.	Each person in group needs to say one thing about what they learned.

Meeker Worksheet

The Meekers and Their Mansion: 1830-1861

Ezra Meeker was born on December 29, 1830 in a log cabin on the family farm near Ohio. His mother was Phoebe Baker Meeker, and his father was Jacob Redding Meeker. In 1839, the family moved to Indiana to farm. On May 13, 1851, Ezra Meeker married his neighbor, Eliza Jane Sumner. They would have six children: Marion, Ella, Thomas, Carrie, Fred, and Olive.

In April of 1852, the Meeker family loaded up a covered wagon and started their journey to the Oregon territory. Once they made it to the west coast, they filed homestead claims in Kalama where Ezra built a cabin. In August 1854, Ezra Meeker found out the rest of his family was stuck on the Oregon Trail. He had to go save them! He found them over the Naches Pass Trail and found out his mother and brother had died from the journey.

The Meekers and Their Mansion: 1862-1890

Because of financial problems, Ezra and Eliza moved their family to the Puyallup Valley in 1862. They took over a small cabin and Eliza planted ivy near the cabin door which made the vines grow to cover the little house. Ezra Meeker planted hops in 1865 which was a huge success. The Puyallup Valley had an ideal climate for hops so this new business made the Meekers very rich. Ezra even opened up a branch of his business in London, England. In 1885, Eliza Meeker even got to meet Queen Victoria. Having been in the presence of royalty, Eliza was finished with living in a little cabin. In 1887, she hired two Tacoma architects to design and built a 17-room Italiante Victorian mansion. All the Meekers moved into the mansion in 1890. The mansion had hand-painted ceilings, stained-glass windows, fireplaces, and running water.

The Meekers and Their Mansion: 1890-1915

During 1890, Ezra founded the city that was surrounding his mansion and named it Puyallup. He was elected mayor. Sadly, a plague of hop louse infested the Pacific Coast in 1892 which made Meeker's hops crop not grow. Because of this, he had to put the house up for sale in 1903, but it was sold back to the Meekers once they had money again. While Ezra Meeker was exploring the Oregon Trail between 1906 and 1908, the mansion took in boarders to stay there. When Eliza Meeker died in 1909, Ezra Meeker gave his daughter and son-in-law the mansion and left to explore more of the Oregon Trail. Between 1912 and 1915, the Meeker Mansion was sold to become a hospital and orphanage.

The Meekers and Their Mansion: 1906-1926

In 1906, Ezra Meeker began retracing his 1852 Oregon Trail journey. He was 76 when he began to retrace his journey. His goal was to identify the trail's exact path and place historical markers along the route. During the years people traveled the Oregon Trail, more than half a million people traveled the path that ended in Oregon City, Oregon. This journey would take about five months to complete. Ezra Meeker did four different trips along the Oregon Trail: the first between 1906 and 1908, the second was 1910 to 1912, and the third was in 1916. His fourth journey was in October 1924 when he flew over a portion of the trail. The pilot did not think he would survive because Ezra was so old and turned blue from the cold. But he did it!

The Meekers and Their Mansion: 1926-1970

In April 1926, Meeker founded the Oregon Trail Memorial Association and became president of it. Then he went to Washington, DC to ask Congress to make a special Oregon Trail coin. This coin was approved in May 1926. Ezra Meeker died on December 3, 1928 in Seattle, WA. He was almost 98 years old. In 1948, the Meeker Mansion sold and turned into a nursing home from a hospital. In 1970, the Ezra Meeker Historical Society bought the Mansion and began restoring it to what it is today.

Information was taken from:

Seattle Times Article --

<http://www.seattletimes.com/pacific-nw-magazine/puyallups-meeker-mansion-a-leson-in-history/>

History Link Article --

http://www.historylink.org/index.cfm?DisplayPage=output.cfm&File_Id=7737