



Title: Cultural Connections: The Newspaper Article

Subject: Language Arts

Grades: 3rd-6th

Objective: Students will formulate questions for an interview of a person from a town along the expeditions route and write answers based on information presented on the Wilderness Classroom website and additional sources.

Illinois State Standards and Goals:

- 1.B.3a** Preview reading materials, make predictions and relate reading to information from other sources.
- 1.C.2a** Use information to form and refine questions and predictions
- 1.C.2b** Make and support inferences and form interpretations about main themes and topics.
- 1.C.2d** Summarize and make generalizations from content and relate to purpose of material.
- 1.C.3a** Interpret and analyze entire narrative text using story elements, point of view and theme.
- 2.B.2a** Respond to literary material by making inferences, drawing conclusions and comparing it to their own experiences, prior knowledge, and other texts.
- 3.B.2b** Establish central ideas, organization, elaboration, and unity in relation to purpose and audience.
- 3.B.3a** Produce documents that convey a clear understanding and interpretation of ideas and information and display focus, organization, elaboration, and coherence.
- 3.B.3b** Edit and revise for word choice, organization, consistent point of view and transitions among paragraphs using contemporary technology and formats suitable for submission and/or publication.
- 3.C.2b** Produce and format compositions for specified audiences using available technology.

Method:

Have students read a Notes from the Trail that talks about people that Dave and Amy encounter. Begin a discussion about cultural differences, having students understand what factors impact cultural traditions and daily life. Have students pretend they are newspaper reporter assigned to interview one of the people Dave and Amy highlight. Have students develop appropriate questions that they would like to ask in their interview. If necessary, have students use outside resources, like guidebooks and web resources, to help answer the questions they would ask.

Have students present their article in a multimedia format, complete with pictures.