

4th Grade Social Studies Review Lessons

Implementing Wordle in the Classroom

Basic Lesson

Standards: All

Summary: Students will brainstorm topics they have learned this year in Social Studies. Topics will be copied and pasted or typed into Wordle to create a study guide that students can take home.

Time: Ranging from 15 to 30 Minutes (Time frame may vary depending on your students)

- Steps:
- 1) Before lesson begins, pull up www.wordle.net on the SmartBoard. Click on the "Create" button. Give each student a piece of notebook paper.
 - 2) Ask students to think about everything they have learned this year in social studies. Give the students 5 to 10 minutes to create a list of all the things they have learned. Tell students that their list can include big ideas and small details. They should write anything they can think of. (If you would like, allow students to use their social studies text book to create their list.)
 - 3) After students have created their list, ask them to go through and circle the most important things from their list. See the attached list of 4th Grade Social Studies Topics as a guide for what should be considered most important.
 - 4) Allow students to share what they circled as most important. As they are sharing, type their ideas into the space on wordle.net that says "Paste in a bunch of text."
 - 5) Once a list has been created of important social studies topics, type "4th Grade Social Studies" five or more times at the bottom of your list (this will allow the phrase 4th Grade Social Studies to be more prominent than your other words in your word cloud). Click "Go."
 - 6) You now have a word cloud that reviews the important ideas for social studies. There are 3 easy ways you can make a copy of your word cloud.
 - Click "Print" to make a copy of it.

- Use the camera feature in SmartBoard to save to a notebook file.
- Use the Snipping Tool (in All Programs, then Accessories on your computer) to save as a graphic file (such as JPEG or GIF).

More In-Depth Lesson

Standards: All

Summary: Students will break into small groups to create a word cloud based on a specific social studies topic. Students will share their word clouds to each other at the end of the lesson to review all of the topics learned this year in social studies.

Time: Ranging from 45 to 60 Minutes (Time frame may vary depending on your students)

Steps:

- 1) Break your class into 8 groups. Assign each group one of the following topics: Native American Cultures, Exploration, Colonial America, American Revolution, New Nation, Westward Expansion, Abolitionist and Suffrage Movements, and Economics.
- 2) Give each group a text book (and other any research materials you would like for them to use i.e. reading passage, Encyclopedias, etc...).
- 3) Each group will create a list of the most important key words or terms about their assigned topic by researching and reading through their textbooks or any other materials you give them. Give students approximately 30 minutes to work together to create their list.
- 4) After a list is created for each topic, each group will go to www.wordle.net on a computer. Click "Create" and have each group type their list into the space that says "Paste in a Bunch of Text." Click "Go" to create a word cloud for each topic. Students can change the features of their word cloud by typing randomize. Make sure each group prints their word cloud when they are finished.
*If students are completing this in your classroom (instead of the computer lab with more computers), you might want to show a social studies related video so all the students are occupied while groups are taking turns using your classroom computers.
- 5) Each group will take turns sharing their word cloud so by the end of the lesson each student will have had a review of all the social studies concepts from this year.

4th Grade Social Studies Topics

Native American Cultures

- Arctic (Inuit)
- Northwest (Kwakiutl)
- Plateau (Nez Perce)
- Southwest (Hopi)
- Plains (Pawnee)
- Southeast (Seminole)

Exploration

- John Cabot
- Vasco Núñez de Balboa
- Juan Ponce de León
- Christopher Columbus
- Henry Hudson
- Jacques Cartier

Colonial America

- New England Colonies
- Mid-Atlantic Colonies
- Southern Colonies
- Colonial Life

American Revolution

- Causes of the Revolution - French and Indian War, Stamp Act, "No taxation without Representation", Sons of Liberty, Boston Tea Party
- Declaration of Independence
- Battle of Lexington and Concord, Saratoga, Yorktown
- King George III, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Benedict Arnold, Patrick Henry, John Adams

New Nation

- Articles of Confederation
- Constitutional Convention - James

Madison and Benjamin Franklin

- 3 Branches of Government
- Bill of Rights
- War of 1812

Westward Expansion

- Louisiana Purchase
- Lewis and Clark
- The Alamo
- Oregon Trail
- California Gold Rush
- Industrial Revolution - Steamboat,

Steam Locomotive, Telegraph

- Impact on Native Americans

Abolitionist and Suffrage Movements

- Harriet Tubman
- Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- Sojourner Truth

Economics

- Opportunity Costs
- Price Incentives
- Specialization
- Voluntary Exchange
- Trade
- Technological Advancements
- Personal Budget