

Celebrating New Mexico Statehood
Lesson Plan 3
Governor O. A. Larrazolo and New Mexico's Quest for Statehood

Developed by staff of the Center for Southwest Research, UNM University Libraries

Lesson Plan: Research and describe the life and politics of New Mexico Governor O. A. Larrazolo with a special focus on issues pertaining to statehood. At the teacher's discretion, students may choose to study another New Mexican involved in the struggle for statehood.

Overview

This small group or individual activity will utilize social studies and technology skills by having the students research and describe the life and politics of New Mexico Governor O. A. Larrazolo or another New Mexican involved in the struggle for statehood. Students will use primary source documents to formalize their arguments.

Recommended Grade Level

Grade 7, with modifications could be used for other grades.

Time Required

This lesson should take approximately four 45 minute class periods.

Objectives

- Students will explore the Celebrating New Mexico Statehood website (<http://nmstatehood.unm.edu>) and take notes on relevant materials.
- Students will formulate a written report about O. A. Larrazolo or alternate individual involved in the struggle for statehood, based upon the digitized historic documents and library resources.
- Students will use the website to fill in any missing information.
- Students will create a final draft of their research reports.
- Students may create an oral report and present it to their classmates.

Materials/Teacher Preparation

- Paper for taking notes.
- Computers with internet and word processing.
- Other materials may be needed for the oral presentations.

Curriculum Standards

This lesson will meet several standards and benchmarks for the New Mexico Public Education Department – Check for current standards

Suggested Procedures

1. The lesson will begin with the teacher asking students to define primary sources.
2. Once a definition has been established students will brainstorm different types of primary resources.

3. The teacher will ask students to talk about any prior knowledge of Governor O. A. Larrazolo (or other individual selected for the project) and New Mexico's quest for statehood and clarify any misunderstanding as he/she introduces the lesson and objectives.
4. The teacher will read through the instructions and explain the project in detail answering questions when necessary.
5. The teacher will divide the class into groups and assign cooperative group roles within each group.

Cooperative group roles

Leader: Keeps group on task; makes decisions with consent and affirmation of group.

Recorder: Records the written information generated by the group.

Reporter: If needed, this person will make the presentation to the class; otherwise, this task falls on the Leader.

Timer/Illustrator: Keeps track of time elapsed/time remaining and provides drawings and illustrations as part of the group's presentation.

6. The teacher will explore the Celebrating New Mexico Statehood website with the students.
7. Students will explore the statehood website with their groups and take notes on relevant materials.
8. Students will formulate a rough draft of a written report based upon the digitized historic documents.
9. Students will use Celebrating New Mexico Statehood, other relevant websites and library resources to fill in any missing information.
10. Students will create a final draft of their reports.
11. Students may create an oral report and present it to their classmates.

New Mexico History Resources Online:

Celebrating New Mexico Statehood <http://nmstatehood.unm.edu>

American Memory (Library of Congress) <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>

New Mexico Centennial (Official Web Site) <http://www.nmcentennial.org/>

New Mexico Office of the State Historian <http://www.newmexicohistory.org/>

New Mexico Secretary of State Blue Book <http://www.sos.state.nm.us/sos-bluebook.html>

New Mexico Tourism Department <http://www.newmexico.org/>