

Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will have a comprehensive understanding of the Quakers' history, beliefs, and their impact on American society. They will also be able to articulate the significance of Quaker values such as peace, simplicity, and equality.

Materials and Prep

- Pencil and paper for note-taking
- Access to a computer or tablet for research (if available)
- Art supplies (markers, colored pencils, etc.) for creative projects
- A quiet space for reflection and discussion

Before the lesson, it may be helpful to familiarize yourself with basic information about Quakerism, including key figures like William Penn and important events such as the founding of Pennsylvania.

Activities

• Quaker Timeline Creation:

The student will create a timeline that highlights significant events in Quaker history, such as the founding of Pennsylvania and the abolition of slavery. This visual representation will help them understand the chronological progression of Quaker influence in America.

• Quaker Values Discussion:

Engage in a discussion about the core values of Quakerism, including peace, equality, and simplicity. The student can reflect on how these values relate to their own life and the world around them.

• Creative Quaker Manifesto:

The student will write a "Quaker Manifesto" that encapsulates what they believe are the most important Quaker principles. They can illustrate their manifesto with drawings that represent these ideas.

• Quaker Role Play:

Students can role-play a Quaker meeting or a historical event involving Quakers, such as a peace protest or a community gathering. This activity will give them insight into the communal and spiritual aspects of Quaker life.

Talking Points

- "The Quakers, or the Religious Society of Friends, emerged in England in the 17th century and emphasized a direct relationship with God."
- "William Penn, a prominent Quaker, founded Pennsylvania as a place of religious freedom. His vision was to create a society based on equality and justice."
- "Quakers are known for their commitment to pacifism, which means they refuse to engage in violence and promote peace."
- "The Quaker belief in 'that of God in everyone' emphasizes the inherent worth and dignity of every individual, which has influenced many social justice movements."
- "Quakers played a significant role in the abolition of slavery and the women's suffrage movement, advocating for equality and human rights."