

Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will have a basic understanding of the Cold War, including its main events, key figures, and the impact it had on the world. The student will also be able to explain why the Cold War was called "cold" and discuss the differences between communism and democracy.

Materials and Prep

- Paper and colored pencils or markers
- A timer or stopwatch
- Access to a comfortable space for activities
- Basic knowledge of the Cold War timeline (1950s to 1991)

Activities

• Cold War Timeline Creation:

The student will create a timeline of major events during the Cold War. They can draw pictures or write short descriptions for each event. This will help them visualize the sequence of events and understand how they relate to each other.

• Role-Playing Game:

The student will engage in a role-playing activity where they can choose to be a leader from the Cold War era (like John F. Kennedy or Nikita Khrushchev) and act out a famous event, such as the Cuban Missile Crisis. This will help them understand the perspectives of different leaders during the Cold War.

• Art Project - Build a Wall:

The student will create a model of the Berlin Wall using cardboard or paper. They can decorate it with messages of peace and unity to show what they think the wall represented. This will spark discussions about division and reconciliation.

• Cold War Quiz Show:

The student will create a quiz with fun questions about the Cold War. They can quiz a family member or even pretend to host a game show. This will reinforce their knowledge and make learning interactive and enjoyable.

Talking Points

- "The Cold War was a time when two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, didn't fight directly but competed in many ways."
- "It was called the 'Cold' War because there were no actual battles between the two countries, but there was a lot of tension."
- "Communism is when the government controls everything and everyone is supposed to share equally. Democracy is when people get to vote and have more freedom."
- "Important events like the Cuban Missile Crisis made people very scared because it was a close call to a nuclear war."
- "The Berlin Wall was built to keep people from moving freely between East and West Berlin, showing how divided the world was during the Cold War."
- "Many people wanted peace and worked hard to end the Cold War, which eventually happened"

in 1991."