

Objective

By the end of this lesson, Kira will understand key events and figures in United States history, including their significance and impact on the nation. She will be able to identify important dates and describe how these events shaped the United States today.

Materials and Prep

- Paper and colored pencils or markers
- A timeline template (can be drawn on paper)
- Access to a computer or tablet for research (optional)
- Printed copies of short biographies of key historical figures
- Sticky notes or index cards

Before the lesson, prepare a timeline template for Kira to fill in with important events. Have a selection of biographies ready for her to read and choose from.

Activities

- **Timeline Creation:**

Kira will create a timeline of significant events in U.S. history. She will choose at least five events and illustrate them on her timeline, including dates and descriptions.

- **Character Exploration:**

Kira will read short biographies of key figures in U.S. history and select one to present. She will summarize their contributions and why they are important to the story of the U.S.

- **Sticky Note Reflections:**

Kira will write down interesting facts or thoughts about each event and figure on sticky notes. She can then place these notes on her timeline or around her workspace for easy reference.

Talking Points

- "Let's think about why history is important. It helps us understand how we got to where we are today!"
- "Can you name a few events that changed the course of U.S. history? What do you think made them so significant?"
- "When we look at key figures, we see how one person can make a big difference. Who inspires you the most?"
- "Why do you think we study history? What lessons can we learn that might help us in the future?"
- "As you create your timeline, think about how each event connects to the next. How do they all fit together?"