

Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will be able to explore the history and significance of national nature walks in the United States.

Materials and Prep

- Access to the internet for research
- Notebook or paper for taking notes
- Pencil or pen

Activities

1. **Research:** Have the student use the internet to research national nature walks in the United States. They should find information about famous national nature walks, their locations, and their historical significance. Encourage them to take notes while researching.
2. **Create a Timeline:** Using the information gathered from the research, the student should create a timeline showcasing the establishment and development of national nature walks in the United States. They can draw or write the timeline, including key events and dates.
3. **Virtual Tour:** Take a virtual tour of one or more national nature walks. There are many websites and videos available that provide virtual tours of these natural wonders. The student should explore the virtual tour(s) and take notes on the unique features and attractions they discover.
4. **Reflection:** After completing the virtual tour(s), the student should reflect on their experience. They can write a short paragraph discussing what they found most interesting or surprising about the national nature walk(s) they explored.

Eighth Grade Talking Points

- "National nature walks are protected areas of land that showcase the natural beauty and biodiversity of a specific region."
- "They are established to preserve and protect important ecosystems, wildlife habitats, and cultural sites."
- "National nature walks can be found throughout the United States, from coast to coast."
- "Some famous national nature walks include the Appalachian Trail, the Pacific Crest Trail, and the Everglades National Park."
- "These walks offer opportunities for outdoor recreation, education, and scientific research."
- "National nature walks have historical significance, as they were established to promote conservation efforts and raise awareness about the importance of protecting our natural resources."
- "Visiting a national nature walk allows individuals to connect with nature, experience breathtaking landscapes, and learn about the history and culture of the area."
- "By exploring national nature walks, we can better understand the importance of environmental stewardship and the need to preserve these natural treasures for future generations."