



Teaching with Historic Places Lesson Plan

Digging for the Past

School: Veterans Memorial School
Subject: Social Studies

Contributors: Jean Swanson
Grade: 2

Introduction:

Show students objects that have been found buried in the ground locally. Talk about what the objects could have been used for. Ask students if they have ever discovered objects buried in the ground while digging.

Objectives:

- Students will understand we can learn about how people lived long ago by looking at the objects they used and the homes they lived in.

Materials:

- Primary *Place Teacher Resource Guide* by Silver Burdett Ginn, pages 78 and 79
- *The House on Maple Street* by Bonnie Pryor
- Artifacts and photos of local historical sites

Initiating Activity:

Read *The House on Maple Street* orally. Discuss how the land and the house changed over the years. Have students make connections on how their homes and neighborhoods have changed in their short lifetimes.

Secondary Activity:

Show students old pictures of the area. Ask students to identify the locations. Talk about how the locations have changed over the years. Talk about how clothing has changed.



A collection of artifacts dug up on the Saugus Iron Works grounds.



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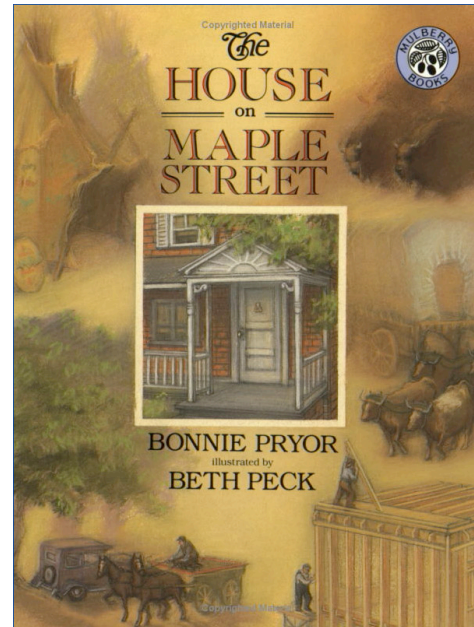
Culminating Activity:

Visit the Spencer-Peirce-Little Farm in Newbury, Massachusetts. Allow the students to view the old farmhouse and its contents. Students will be able to participate in hands-on activities to learn about farm life over the centuries. They will also be exposed to real archaeology by piecing excavated artifacts together.

Assessment:

Students will cut out the pictures on the skill sheet. Using what they have learned in class along with clues from the book *The House on Maple Street* students will glue the pictures in the correct sequence on another piece of paper.

Given a list of local historical places students will pick one place to draw and or write about. Encourage students to write about what the place was used for and if it has changed.



The cover of
The House on Maple Street.



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Skill Sheet

