

DISTANCE LEARNING GUIDE

"CORN"UCOPIA - CORN AND ITS ROLE IN AMERICAN HISTORY

Corn has been a part of the American economy and way of life since the very beginning. This program is designed to educate and enlighten students about the many roles of corn, both today and in the past. We will discuss the origins of corn, the growth and structure of the plant, the history of corn, its use by Native American peoples, and the many roles of corn today, even its use as an alternative fuel source. In addition, students can make their very own corn shuck doll with the help of the presenter. We will advise you about what supplies you will need to provide for the craft.

DR.BURRITT: GREEN BEFORE HIS TIME

This presentation is a virtual field trip of the home of the late Dr. William Burritt, who provided the house and land on Round Top Mountain which became the first museum in Huntsville, Alabama. Students will discuss Dr. Burritt, as both a homeopathic physician and a pioneer of "green" construction. They will discover how he incorporated durable, recycled and sustainably harvested materials for the construction of his home. Students will compare and contrast current green construction and life practices to those of Dr. Burritt's residence in the early 1930's (Insulation, water collection, passive solar). Students will also discuss their current recycling practices and develop a list of ways to improve their environment using recycling and other methods to achieve a more sustainable school or community.

OUR FLAG, THEN AND NOW

Go back in time to a classroom over 100 years ago. Learn about the American flag and patriotism as it was taught in 1910. When was the star for your state added to the flag? The students will brainstorm what they know about the American flag and Pledge of Allegiance. Then they will learn about the American flag through the eyes of a 1910 student, and they will compare the flag of today to the flag of 100 years ago. The vocabulary of the pledge will be presented to help create better understanding of the words and what they meant then and now. As we wrap up the discussion, your students will create their very own classroom pledge.

SLAVES TO SOLDIERS

The African American involvement in American military operations during the 19th century was significant and essential. This program looks at the progression of the African American soldier beginning as a slave, to a Civil War soldier, and then later as a Buffalo Soldier. We will discuss African American contributions to the Civil War, Westward Expansion, and the Spanish-

American War. Students will learn about the United States Colored Troops, the Buffalo Soldiers, and the Buffalo Soldiers involvement in the Spanish American War and beyond.

TRAIL OF TEARS: A HISTORY OF THE SOUTHEASTERN INDIAN

The Trail of Tears is one of many scars in our nation's history of relations between Native Americans and white settlers. A study of this period can provide perspective on events throughout American history, as well as on problems that we still face today. Legislation was part of what enabled this dark time, but it is equally important to consider the very human stories involved on both sides of the conflict. We will review the history of settler-Native American relations and develop an understanding of the issues and current events on the minds of those living through the struggle. Students will gain perspective on both sides of the conflict, as well as a base of knowledge about the history of Southeastern American Indians and their interactions with white settlers. This program is designed to be customized to your group's age and knowledge level.