Families Then and Now
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OVERVIEW

Students will look at pictures of twentieth century families, children, and schools, explaining what is different and alike, and comparing families of the early 1900’s and their own families.

STANDARDS

• History Standard 2.3: Students apply knowledge of the past to analyze present-day issues and events from multiple, historically objective perspectives.

OBJECTIVES

After completing the activity the student will:

• Understand that change occurs over time in various ways within the family structure.
• Be able to articulate characteristics of his or her own family.
• Be able to articulate some characteristics of a family of the early 1900’s based on photographs in the Doing History CD-ROM disk or website, Twentieth Century/Families, Children, Schools/Food, Clothing, Shelter/Community.

INQUIRY QUESTIONS

• What kinds of clothes do families of today wear? Why do we wear the clothes we wear?
• What kinds of clothes did families of the early 1900’s wear? Why did they wear those kinds of clothes?
• What kinds of clothing did children wear then and now?
• What kinds of clothing did school children wear?

MATERIALS

• Doing History CD-ROM disk or Internet site
Pictures from the Twentieth Century topic:
  Families, Children, Schools
  Food, Clothing, Shelters
  Community

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PROCEDURE

First class period
1. Students are asked to look at pictures on the Doing History CD-ROM disk or website, focusing on the following themes: Families, Children and Schools; Food, Clothing and Shelter; and Community.

2. Students will take notes on the pictures, using the inquiry questions as guidelines (45 min.)

Second class period
1. Students will form small groups and discuss their notes and thoughts for 20 min.

2. Students will record their ideas on a graphic organizer-Venn diagram.

ASSESSMENT

After group discussion of what is similar and different in the pictures of the families of the past and their own families, students will individually complete a VENN diagram listing the similarities and differences.