

Travel via Louisiana waterways

Objectives:

Students will gain knowledge of major early explorers and exploration significant to Louisiana or early settlers in Louisiana. They will learn ways in which location and physical features have influenced historical events in Louisiana and development of the state. Student will gain knowledge about historical and economic factors influencing the economic growth, interdependence and development of Louisiana and the nation.

Grade-Level Expectations/Historical Thinking Skills:

- Describe major early explorers and explorations significant to Louisiana.
- Describe ways in which location and physical features have influenced historical events in Louisiana and the development of the state.
- Describe historical and economic factors influencing the economic growth, interdependence and development of Louisiana and the nation.
- Explain how U.S foreign policy has affected Louisiana.



Original in possession of Chicago's Historical Society. Shows (a) De Soto's wanderings in 1492; (b) La Salle's landing, his journey to the interior, and the place of his death; (c) Toussaint's journey to the Chickasaws; (d) the old forts at Bilhoué, on Mobile Bay, and on the Mississippi River below New Orleans; (e) route of Bienville from Texasa village to Red River.



both images from the *Library of Congress*

Explanation of Lesson:

This lesson will allow students to examine early explorers and exploration significant to Louisiana or early settlers in Louisiana. We will then explore how location (specifically waterways) and physical features have influenced historical events in Louisiana and development of the state. Finally, the lesson will relate historical and economic factors influencing the economic growth, interdependence and development of Louisiana and the nation.

Essential Questions:

1. How have location and physical features (e.g. Mississippi River) influenced historical events in Louisiana and the aided development of the state?
2. How have economic factors of Louisiana waterways influenced the economic growth, interdependence and development of Louisiana and the nation?

Directions: Use the images, documents, class discussions and background information to answer questions and complete task for this topic. Please remember to write neatly.

Background information:

On, May 8, 1541, Spanish **explorer** Hernando de Sotro became the first recorded European to reach the Mississippi River. French Explorers, Louis Jolliet and Jacques Marquette, began exploring the river in the 17 century. In 1682, Rene – Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle and Henri de Tonti claimed the entire Mississippi River **basin** for France. In 1705, the first cargo was floated down the river from the Indian country around the Wabash, now the States of Indiana and Ohio. Bienville founded New Orleans in 1718 and four year later this city was made the capital of the region known as Louisiana. The canoes of the Indians soon proved inadequate for the need of the settlers. The flat-boats and rafts which succeed them were one-way craft only. The keelboat was the first queen of the river trade. Invention of the steamboat in the early nineteen century brought about revolution in river **commerce**.

In 1820, Congress began addressing the navigational needs of the nation’s interior by authorizing a reconnaissance of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers. Louisiana’s early economic system involved trade of basic items of goods and services such as furs, tools, and labor. In 1831, a bold attempt was made to improve navigation conditions at the mouth of the Red River by an artificial cutoff, proposed by Capt. Henry M. Shreve. Improvement of the mouth of the Mississippi River for seagoing navigation was first undertaken by Congress in 1837, with an appropriation made for an accurate survey of the passes and bars at the river's mouth. By 1850, the growing river commerce, together with increasing **destruction** caused by floods, was creating demand for Federal participation in navigation improvements and flood **protection**. In 1879, the Mississippi River Commission was created by Act of Congress.

The importance of maintaining a safe **navigation** channel assumes great significance when the role of the Mississippi River as the main stem of the vast inland waterways system is taken into account. With completion of the Ohio River canalization in 1929, the Upper Mississippi River canalization in 1940, and enlargement of the Intracoastal Waterway in 1943, a vast network of waterways for **barge** traffic was provided.

Vocabulary Instructions:

1. Write the underlined **bold** words from the background information in the first column and rate your understanding (+,√ or ?).
2. Put a “+” next to each word you know well, and give an accurate example and definition of the word. Your definition and example must relate to the unit of study.
3. Place a “√” next to any words for which you can write only a definition or an example, but not both.
4. Place a “?” next to words that are new to you.
5. Construct an explanation and example of each word and rate your understanding a second time AFTER the teacher has introduced words within the context of the lesson.

Vocabulary	+	√	?	Explanation	Example

Document # 1: excerpt from Treaty of San Lorenzo

This liberty of navigation and commerce shall extend to all kinds of merchandizes, excepting those only which are distinguished by the name of contraband that they may be transported and carried in the freest manner by the subjects of both parties, even to places belonging to an enemy, such towns or places being only excepted as are at that time besieged, blocked up, or invested. And except the cases in which any ship of war or squadron shall in consequence of storms or other accidents at sea be under the necessity of taking the cargo of any trading vessel or vessels, in which case they may stop the said vessel or vessels and furnish themselves with necessaries, giving a receipt in order that the power to whom the said ship of war belongs may pay for the articles so taken according to the price thereof at the port to which they may appear to have been destined by the ship's papers

Treaty of San Lorenzo, Article XVI

Document Based Question: Follow the directions and complete the reading rake on the next page.

Name:

Date:

Idea Reading Rake

After completing the reading, use a direct quote from the passage, list some ideas or topics, restate the reading in your own words and explain the purpose of this source.

Direct Quote from reading:

Idea/Topic:	Idea/Topic:	Idea/Topic:

Restate the reading (in your own words) and explain the purpose of the source:

Documents # 2-4: Reading Interpretations

Steamboat. The persons who desire to take an interest in the steamboat held under the patent of Messrs. Livingston and Fulton, destined to navigate upon the Mississippi River and Ohio and Cumberland, and to the Falls of Ohio will please address the undersigned at the house of Messrs. Talcot and Bowers, from eleven o'clock until two. The subscription book is open everyday until they are filled. **from the *Monitor*, March 5, 1812**

The addition of Louisiana to the United States was inevitable. The young republic was moving inexorably westward, and its major transportation system for moving people and goods was the Ohio-Missouri-Mississippi river system. New Orleans was the natural outlet for the agricultural products and manufactured goods produced by the Americans flooding west of the Appalachians. Since there were too few Europeans to hold New Orleans against the American tide, it was New Orleans' destiny to become part of the United States power struggles, and the emergence of the United States as a major power have embedded the city deep within the heartland of the American economy and have made it an important factor in the world economy. In December 1803, New Orleans' legal and political realities finally became aligned with its obvious geographic and economic realities as a critical part of a rapidly growing United States. New Orleans' situation was too important, its reputation too flamboyant to be ignored by the United States any longer. New Orleans' fate was determined by its particular political and economic conditions that dictated its founding as a city. These conditions dominated its economic development to the Civil War and have been influential ever since.

Excerpt from Louis E. Madère, Jr. (Loyola University), November, 2003, New Orleans, Louisiana

New Orleans' fortunes grew with the steamboat trade. By the 1850's more than 3,000 boats called at the port, carrying cargoes of sugar, corn, hogs, whiskey, and cotton. The lively trade and New Orleans' Spanish, French, and Creole influences blended to create a truly cosmopolitan culture.

Expedition Journal: Douglas Brinkley, May 1, 2001

Document Based Question:



1. What year did steamboat successfully introduced in commercial traffic?



2. How did steamboat traffic influence the development of Louisiana economy and culture?







3. What is the significant effect of maintaining a safe navigation channel at Louisiana waterways?



4. Explain, in detail, three effects of the blending of cultures in the New Orleans area.



Students must complete the long term column in order to explain the PPIE of the Louisiana waterways. (note: MS is sometimes used in place of Mississippi)

GLE Strands/Themes	PPIE (People, Places, Ideas, Events)	Long term effect/result
 <p>Civics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treaty of San Lorenzo opened up MS River to American navigation. • Mississippi River Commission mission to improve condition of MS river • Upper Mississippi River canalization • Ohio River canalization • Intracoastal Waterway 	
 <p>Economics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steamboat carried cotton and other produce to market • Trade of basic goods and services such as furs, tools and labor • Transportation/accommodation of passengers • River commerce 	
 <p>Geography</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mississippi River runs through 10 states • Mouth of MS river • Open for trading business • Steamboat routes on the MS river 	
 <p>History</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1541- DeSoto first European reach MS river • 1682- de La Salle and de Tonti claimed entire MS river for France • 1718 - Bienville founded New Orleans • 1811 – first Steamboat to travel the MS river 	



Summative Assessment Essay Directions: Using notes from class discussion, answers to question and all documents, websites and sources, write a well-organized essay using the writing prompt. The essay must be **at least** 300 words. The student will write a well-organized essay using the prompt below. The essay must include a title and topic sentence. The essay must include an introduction, supporting paragraphs, and a conclusion (students must complete the Graphic Organizer Flow Chart before starting).

Prompt: Explain how Louisiana waterways have impacted the political, economic, geographical and historical culture of the Louisiana from 1541 until the present day.



Graphic Organizer: Multi-Paragraph Essay Chart

Introduction

Historical context:

Thesis statement:

Topic # 1

Facts from class:

Outside Knowledge:

Topic # 2

Facts from class:

Outside Knowledge:

Topic # 3

Facts from class:

Outside Knowledge:

Topic # 4

Facts from class:

Outside Knowledge:

Conclusion

Restate thesis:

Summarize paragraphs:
