

Create a unit plan for teaching about the Domesday Book

Lesson 1: Introduction

Objective:

Students will understand the significance of the Domesday Book and how it was used.

Materials:

- PowerPoint presentation
- Internet access

Length: 45 minutes

Activities

- Start discussion on the power and authority of the Medieval Monarchy in England
- Introduce the Domesday Book and explain what it was
- Discuss its importance as a record of land and property ownership throughout the country
- View a PowerPoint presentation on the Domesday Book, including information on its history and purpose
- Allow students time to research and discuss the contents of the Domesday Book

Lesson 2: Hands-on Activity

Objective:

Students will practice being scribes and re-create excerpts from the Domesday Book.

Materials:

- Whiteboard
- Textbook excerpts of the Domesday Book
- Handouts of text excerpts
- Copy paper

Length: 45 minutes

Activities

- Review the history of the Domesday Book

- Explain the process of recording land and property records in the Domesday Book
- Divide the class into two groups and hand out excerpts from the text to each group
- On the whiteboard, write down a sentence from the text
- Divide the sentence in groups of two/three and have each group write the sentence down on paper
- Once complete, check the sentences for accuracy
- Repeat with different sentences from the text
- Discuss how accuracy is fundamental for recording information

Lesson 3: Analysis

Objective:

Students will analyze and understand how people were taxed and how much land was assigned to different categories of people

Materials:

- Worksheets
- Articles
- Maps

Length: 45 minutes

Activities

- Introduce the different groups of people in Medieval England
- Discuss the ranking of power among feudal lords and peasants
- Explain how taxes were assessed in this period
- Hand out worksheets with articles, maps, and excerpts from the Domesday Book
- Allow students time to work individually to analyze and answer the questions
- When complete, as a class review the answers
- Discuss how the Domesday Book provides information about Medieval England

Lesson 4: Assessments

Objective:

Students will demonstrate their knowledge of the Domesday Book by creating a timeline of its creation and purpose.

Materials:

- Textbook
- Timeline worksheet
- Markers/colored pencils

Length: 30 minutes

Activities

- Briefly review the history of the Domesday Book
- Pass out the timeline worksheet and markers/colored pencils
- Instruct students to fill out the timeline on the worksheet
- Once complete, allow time for students to present their timeline in front of the class
- Discuss how the Domesday Book has shaped how people were taxed and how power was structured in Medieval England