



Park Ranger: Impact of the New Deal on National Parks

Adventure Description:

In this adventure, you get to be a park ranger who is creating a new adventure tour to introduce visitors to a national park.

Activity

Teacher note: This activity is long and can be completed across multiple days.

Step 1: Background Information on the New Deal and National Park Tours (10 minutes)

- Show [Video: Impact of the New Deal on National Parks](#)
- As a class, review how many people lost their jobs during the Great Depression. President Roosevelt created the New Deal to add jobs to the American economy. Some of these jobs included working in the national parks.
- Explain that today, working in national parks is still a very important job. National parks keep wildlife and American ecosystems safe and clean. National parks are also places where people can go to learn about American history, information on plants and animals, and people who used to live on the land in the past, like Native American tribes.
- Explain to students that they will be a park rangers and design a tour for a national park that tells visitors more information about how the New Deal helped national parks. The tour will also include an exciting adventure!

Step 2: Activity Set Up (10 minutes)

- Show [Handout: Examples of Tours](#). As a class, discuss how there are many different types of tours. Tours of the national parks could include adventure, photography, and even safari!
- Explain to students that they will be creating an tour that is part educational and part adventure! Students will get to choose which national park they want to create a tour for. Students can choose a park from [Handout: National Park Choices](#) or research another park not listed. Then, they will design an adventure part of the tour and an educational part of the tour. Students will then create a presentation about the park, how the the New Deal impacted the park, and why visitors should come to that park and participate on the tour.
- Provide students with [Handout: Creating a Tour](#). As as class, read through the steps. Then, provide students with [Handout: National Park Information](#). Students will use these sources to create the educational part of their tour.

Please contact Allison Bischoff, Director of Customer Service, at allison@rozzylearningcompany.com or 314-272-2560 with questions.

Park Ranger: Impact of the New Deal on National Parks

- Divide students into small groups or pairs. Provide each group with the following materials:
 - Art supplies and building materials (e.g., cardboard, clean recyclables, pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks, etc.).
 - Piece of string or rope that is at least 18 inches long.
 - A small box to represent the national park visitor center.

Step 3: Creating Adventure Part of Tour (20+ minutes)

- Explain to students that they will now create the adventure part of their tour. This is how visitors will reach the visitor center
- While students are working, ask the following questions:
 - Why are you choosing the adventure you chose?
 - How can you help tourists learn more about the national park while on the adventure part?

Step 4: Creating Educational Part of Tour (20+ minutes)

- Explain to students that they will now create the educational part of their tour.
- As students are working, ask the following:
 - What kind of people will be interested in taking your tour? (Families, geographers, environmentalists)
 - Why did you choose those sources?
 - What will you do to help keep your tourists interested in the information you are telling them about the park?
- Teacher note: Students will choose a style for their presentation. Pairs that choose a lecture style will need a large sheet of paper or a poster board. Students that choose a technology-style presentation will need a tablet or iPhone. If students choose the “other” option, they will need to get an idea approved by you before they can choose a different style of presentation.

Step 5: Sharing Attractions (5 minutes)

- Have students showcase their full tour to the rest of the class. Have students discuss the following as part of their presentation:
 - Why will tourists want to come and take your tour?
 - How much will a tour cost and how long will it last?
 - What opportunities/resources will you have available for your customers to learn more about your topic after they go home?
- Have a concluding class discussion about why tourism is important to keeping national parks running.

Please contact Allison Bischoff, Director of Customer Service, at allison@rozzylearningcompany.com or 314-272-2560 with questions.

Park Ranger: Impact of the New Deal on National Parks

Materials List

Provided online:

- Video: Impact of the New Deal on National Parks
- Handout: Examples of Tours
- Handout: National Park Choices
- Handout: National Park Information
- Handout: Creating an Tour

Not Provided online (each student or group needs):

- Small box or item to represent visitor center
- Art supplies and building materials (e.g., cardboard, clean recyclables, pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks, etc.)
- Water-proof materials for students who choose to make a waterslide
- Piece of string or rope that is at least 18 inches long
- Presentation Materials (depending on choice: poster board, smartphone/tablet, etc.)

Please contact Allison Bischoff, Director of Customer Service, at allison@rozzylearningcompany.com or 314-272-2560 with questions.