

Virtual Capitol Lessons

Public Service Panels at the Memorial Chamber

Authors	Deborah Anderson, Cheryl Shanker
Editor	Karen Graff, Ed.D.
Grade Level	Fourth
Class Period(s)	1-2

This lesson is designed to precede or follow a field trip to Lincoln or a virtual field trip (<http://nebraskavirtualcapitol.org>) to the Nebraska Capitol.

Nebraska Social Studies Standards

SS 4.1.1 Synthesize and justify the structure and function of Nebraska’s government.

SS 4.1.1.d Investigate and summarize the roles that leaders and other citizens serve in Nebraska to equitably represent all residents in the state.

SS 4.1.1.e Justify the importance of roles that leaders and citizens serve in Nebraska government.

SS 4.1.2 Investigate how different perspectives impact government decisions at the state level.

SS 4.1.2.a Identify and model rights and responsibilities of citizens at the state level.

SS 4.1.2.d Identify and engage in opportunities to serve the state.

Nebraska Language Arts Standards

LA 4.1.5 Vocabulary: Students will build and use conversational, academic, and content-specific grade level vocabulary.

LA 4.1.5.c Acquire new academic and content-specific grade-level vocabulary, relate to prior knowledge, and apply in new situations.

LA 4.2.1 Writing Process: Students will apply the writing process to plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish writing using correct spelling, grammar, punctuation, and other conventions of standard English appropriate for grade-level.

LA 4.2.2 Writing Modes: Students will write in multiple modes for a variety of purposes and audiences across disciplines.

LA 4.2.2.a Communicate information and ideas effectively in analytic, descriptive, informative, narrative, poetic, persuasive, and reflective modes to multiple audiences using a variety of media and formats.

LA 4.3.3 Reciprocal Communication: Students will develop, apply, and adapt reciprocal communication skills.

LA 4.3.3.d Listen, ask clarifying questions, summarize, and explain information being communicated and consider its contribution to a topic, text, or issue under study.

Nebraska Fine and Performing Art Standards

FA 5.2.4 Students will examine contemporary, historical, and cultural context in art and life.

FA 5.2.4.a Identify ways that artists influence lives and communities.

FA 5.2.4.d Explore how images and objects are used to convey a story, familiar experience, or connection to the world.



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Overview

Public Service is comprised of the professionals and the volunteers who willingly sacrifice themselves to protect their fellow citizens and their property. The intent of this lesson is to develop appreciation and respect for those who provide service to the community.

Key Vocabulary

Ambulance-a specially equipped vehicle use to transport the ill or injured

Commendation-an award praising someone's actions

Chamber-a large room used for a special event

Commendation-an award praising someone's actions

Emergency-problem or disaster that requires immediate action

Memorial-an object/room used to recall/remember something/someone

Peril-danger

Professional-someone who is paid for their work

Public service-a service that is performed for the good of the community

Rural-outside of the city

Sacrifice-something you give up for the sake of a greater cause

Urban-pertaining to the city

Volunteer-someone who does work without getting paid

Materials

- Venn diagram template
- Optional extension activity materials:
- Pictures of public servants
- Markers/crayons/black ink
- 11" x 14" white paper
- White chalk/black paper

Procedures

SESSION ONE

1. Open the Virtual Capitol Tour and go to the Memorial Chamber. Begin the lesson by studying the panel entitled "Perils of Fire" which represents public service. <http://nebraskavirtualcapitol.org>

Read the artist's comments in the UNO *Gateway* regarding the project (see link to Roberts).

<http://digital.olivesoftware.com/Olive/APA/UNOmaha/#panel=document>

View the video clip from NET (32:37-35:26). <http://netnebraska.org/interactive-multimedia/none/capitol-murals>

2. Discuss the difference between a professional service worker and a volunteer service worker (e.g., a firefighter in an urban setting vs. a rural setting). Does the final panel of "Perils of Fire" portray the differences between professional and volunteer service workers?

SESSION TWO

1. Compare/contrast the services provided by professional and volunteer service personnel. Show Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association video clip (30 sec.) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3A50-m5BUio>



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Complete the Venn diagram: “What Do They Do for You?”

2. Discuss how the acts of service workers contribute to the welfare and success of the community and how students might contribute to the welfare and success of their community.

Assessment

Students will write a proclamation or an editorial for an individual honoring the person for his/her heroism and public service.

1. Students examine primary documents of letters of commendation or proclamations to determine what they have in common.
2. Students use the provided template to complete their own proclamation or use standard persuasive writing format for an editorial.

Extensions

1. Use this lesson with “Civic Participation: How to Become Good Citizens” where students actually do a community service project.
2. “Visions of Public Service” - Students will create a mural with images of themselves providing public service to their community.
3. Read aloud *Do You Know a Hero?* by Dr. Jean A Lukesh. Students will then nominate someone they know in the service community to the Nebraska Hall of Fame by writing a persuasive letter to the Governor and the Capitol Commission. Students will close the lesson by giving a one to two minute persuasive talk to the class/student body.
4. Interactive Art Project: “Visions of Public Service”. Students will create a display of descriptive phrases of their personal aspirations to become members of the service community. “I will contribute to the welfare and success of (service area) at home, school, and community by...”
Extend an invitation to staff and other students to add to the board.
5. Interview public service workers – Invite a firefighter, police officer, military member or animal shelter volunteer to class and have the students interview the individuals. Show video clips from the UNO College of Public Affairs Public Service Stories (interviews with individuals engaged in public service roles) to prepare students.
<http://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-public-affairs-and-community-service/community-engagement/public-service-stories.php>

Sources/Resources

<http://capitol.nebraska.gov/building/rooms/memorial-chamber>

Overview of Memorial Chamber and images of eight panels

<http://digital.olivesoftware.com/Olive/APA/UNOmaha/#panel=document>

UNO Gateway article about alumnus Stephen Roberts (Enter “Stephen Roberts” in search bar)

<https://governor.nebraska.gov/sites/governor.nebraska.gov/files/doc/proc-example.pdf>

Sample proclamation (PDF copy in folder)



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<https://governor.nebraska.gov/proclamation-request>

Instructions for requesting a proclamation

<http://netnebraska.org/interactive-multimedia/none/capitol-murals>

57:50 Teacher background information

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3A50-m5BUjo>

Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association video clip 30 sec.

<http://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-public-affairs-and-community-service/community-engagement/public-service-stories.php>

UNO College of Public Affairs Public Service Stories-interviews with individuals engaged in public service roles

Lukesh, Dr. Jean A. and Lukesh, Ronald E. *Do You Know a Hero?* Grand Island, NE: Field Mouse Productions, 2012. \$14.95 at Amazon.com



STATE OF NEBRASKA

Proclamation

WHEREAS _____

WHEREAS _____

WHEREAS _____

WHEREAS _____

Now, THEREFORE, I _____,

student of _____, do hereby proclaim

_____, as _____.



Name

STUDENT

School

STATE OF NEBRASKA



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Nebraska's firefighters are dedicated to the protection of life, property and to the safety of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Statistics show that civilian fire deaths happened most often in home structure fires; and

WHEREAS, Without the constant prevention and suppression efforts performed by the Nebraska Fire Service, the damages to property and the loss of human life would be much greater; and

WHEREAS, Unwanted fires are not just a hazard to the property owner, but they also endanger other individuals, including responding firefighters; and

WHEREAS, With statistics still coming in, the Nebraska Fire Information Reporting System indicates that Nebraska firefighters responded to more than 31,111 calls for service in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Fires accounted for 399 of the calls for service which have been reported and resulted in more than \$27,000,000 in total loss; and

WHEREAS, Everyone should acknowledge the dedication and bravery of the men and women who provide communities with fire protection services; and

WHEREAS, National Fire Prevention Leaders and the United States Fire Administration remind us that, "Fire is Everyone's Fight;" and

WHEREAS, Nebraskans should do their part to keep their communities, families and firefighters safe from the ravages of fire by learning about and practicing fire prevention techniques.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pete Ricketts, Governor of the State of Nebraska, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the 9th day of May, 2015 as

FIRE RECOGNITION DAY

In Nebraska, and I do hereby urge all fire departments to participate in this opportunity to help Nebraskans understand the great damage caused to both life and property by fire and how they can support the local fire services and fire prevention efforts.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this Eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Fifteen.



Attest:

Janis A. Galt
Secretary of State

Pete Ricketts
Governor



Proclamation

WHEREAS, It is important to realize that fires cause great damage to both property and family's lives; and

WHEREAS, With statistics still coming in, the Nebraska Fire Information Reporting system indicates that Nebraska firefighters responded to more than 31,111 calls for service in 2014; and

WHEREAS, The reported 2014 fires have resulted in 13 civilian deaths, 27 civilian injuries, 1 firefighter death and 33 firefighter injuries; and

WHEREAS, No one should have to endure the pain or loss from fire; and

WHEREAS, National fire prevention leaders and the United States Fire Administration remind us that, "Fire is Everyone's Fight;" and

WHEREAS, Nebraska schools and the Fire Service recognize the tremendous impact that the loss of even one child or family member can have on a child's family, education or community; and

WHEREAS, Schools are an important part of the collaborative effort to reduce the occurrence of fires and help our youth learn how to become better educated on being responsible citizens; and

WHEREAS, Schools have the ability to reach the largest percentage of our youth in a supervised and localized setting; and

WHEREAS, State Fire Day has been set aside annually for all public, private and parochial schools to observe exercises focused on preventing the great damage caused to both life and property by fire.

NOW, THEREFORE, *I, Pete Ricketts, Governor of the State of Nebraska, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the 8th day of May, 2015 as*

STATE FIRE DAY

in Nebraska, and I do hereby urge all schools to recognize this day with exercises appropriate to the subject and day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and cause the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this Eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Fifteen.



Attest:
Ann A. Gace
Secretary of State

Pete Ricketts
Governor

STATE OF NEBRASKA



Proclamation

WHEREAS,

The United States Mint America the Beautiful Quarters® Program, created by Public Law 110-456, produces circulating quarters emblematic of a national park or other site in each state, the District of Columbia and five U.S. territories; and

WHEREAS,

The Homestead National Monument of America quarter is the twenty-sixth released into circulation as part of the program; and

WHEREAS,

Nebraska is home to a community of dedicated teachers who will recognize the release of the Homestead National Monument of America quarter as an opportunity to bring further knowledge and appreciation of the site into the classroom; and

WHEREAS,

The America the Beautiful Quarters® Program features online lesson plans with a series of interactive and educational tools for students in kindergarten through high school found at www.usmint.gov; and

WHEREAS,

On February 10, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. (CST), a ceremony will be held at Beatrice High School in Beatrice, Nebraska to commemorate the release of the Homestead National Monument of America quarter into circulation.

NOW, THEREFORE,


I, Pete Ricketts, Governor of the State of Nebraska, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the 10th day of February, 2015, as


QUARTER DAY IN THE CLASSROOM

in Nebraska, and I do hereby urge all citizens to take due note of the observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and cause the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this Tenth of February, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Fifteen.

Attest:


Secretary of State


Governor

What Do They Do for You?

Professional

Volunteer

