European Exploration and Settlement

Grade Level: Eighth grade

Essential Question:

Summarize the history of European exploration and settlement in western Virginia.

What do we want them to know?

Exploration

* Who were the explorers that contributed to the exploration of Western Virginia?
* What were the different areas of exploration?
* How did the various explorers contribute to the development of present West Virginia?

Settlement

* Where were the first European settlement areas in Western Virginia?
* Why did they settle in particular areas?
* Who were the early settlers in Western Virginia?
  + Morgan Morgan, Scotts-Irish, Germans, Swiss (Helvetia), Religious and Ethnic groups, Indentured Servants.
* What were the obstacles faced by the early settlers coming into Western Virginia?
  + Geographical issues in reaching Western Virginia.
  + Struggles of settlers and settlements.

Teaching Strategies:

* + Speed-Dating Activity
  + Character Representation
  + Period Music
  + Graphic Organizer from WV Encyclopedia.
    - <https://www.wvencyclopedia.org/assets/0002/4074/LessonplanExploration1.pdf>
  + Broadcasting team that can interview characters.
  + Creating a “Fake “book page for an explorer/settler.
  + Primary sources from textbook, (pgs. 298-305 TE)
  + Head Bandz game

Possible Resource/Activity

* + Field Trip to Heritage Farm and Museum.
    - Culture, early life
  + Guest Speaker from Heritage Farm and Museum.

Resources:

* + WV Encyclopedia <www.wv.encyclopedia.org>
  + Text Book
  + WV Archives

Assessment:

* + Writing assignments
    - Journal, Essay, etc.