

The Turnip Winter

Turnips Through Time - Lesson 1



For the Classroom

- Group structure - whole group or small groups
- Location - at seats
- Approximate time - 45 minutes

Common Core and Georgia Standards of Excellence

- SS6H3a. Describe the aftermath of World War I: the rise of communism, the Treaty of Versailles, the rise of Nazism, and worldwide depression.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.WHST.6-8.2. Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/ experiments, or technical processes.
 - CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.WHST.6-8.2.A. Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories as appropriate to achieving purpose; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
 - CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.WHST.6-8.2.B. Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
 - CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.WHST.6-8.2.F. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.

Materials

- Pencils (1 per child) Writing paper (1 per child)
- Articles (to be available online or printed):
 1. "[Starvation and Propaganda as Weapons of War, 1917](#)" - Scientific American
 2. "[Starvation Stalks Europe](#)" - Mental Floss

Reproducibles

- "[Informational Mind Map](#)" Sheet (1 per child)

Directions

1. Share with students that there was a time named the "Turnip Winter" in Germany during World War I. Ask students for ideas of what "Turnip Winter" might mean and why it would have happened, using their prior knowledge about World War I.
2. Distribute one of the "Informational Mind Map" sheets to each child. Explain to children that they are going to research to find out why the time was called "Turnip Winter." Additionally, they will research what caused it to occur and what the effects were afterwards.
3. Instruct children to fill in their "Informational Mind Map" as they research their topic and gather details.
4. Then, provide each child with a sheet of writing paper and have children use their mind map to write an informational paragraph or essay - including an introduction, relevant, well-chosen facts, and a conclusion.

Lesson Created by Jenna Mobley for Georgia Organics



GEORGIA ORGANICS

6 to 8 grade

Social Studies & Writing

🕒 45 min

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#turnipthevolume