

Immigrants and Sports in Pennsylvania

by Aaron Hackman

Standards

NCSS.1.3.d	...help learners to locate, distinguish, and describe the relationships among varying regional and global patterns of geographic phenomena such as landforms, climate, and natural resources;
NCSS.1.3.f	...ask learners to describe how people create places that reflect culture, human needs, current values and ideals, and government policies;
NCSS.1.3.j	...challenge learners to consider, compare, and evaluate existing alternative uses of resources and land in communities, regions, nations, and the world;
PA.SS.EC.6.3.6.C	__Describe the human, natural and capital resources used to produce a specific good or service.
PA.SS.EC.6.4.6.A	__Explain the advantages and disadvantages of specialization and division of labor.

Resources

The Molly Maguires

The movie entitled *The Molly Maguires* is set in northeastern Pennsylvania and illustrates the life of a coal mining town in the anthracite region. The significance of this movie is that sports are a significant part of life in the small coal town.

Objectives

While indirectly related to the general unit on sports history, this video does provide the students an insight into life in the coal-mining towns of northeastern Pennsylvania. The instructional objectives for this lesson are as follows:

a: Students have learned the history behind the coal mines and the lives of the towns that they represent. Sports also has played a large role in the creation of northeastern Pennsylvania's

identity the main point behind this lesson is for the students to decipher and understand this role, both in and out of the movie.

b: This behavior will be demonstrated through a series of questions that will be following the film so that the students will come to understand the teacher's desired goals. These questions will be presented in the "Procedures" component of the lesson plan.

c: In order to aid in the understanding of objective b, the teacher should also explain what exactly the students should be looking for while they are watching the movie. The students should also be paying attention to the movie itself, but they should also be paying attention to the main crux of why the movie is being shown, and that is the illustration of the coal-mining region's identity and the pride of its people.

Rationales

This lesson, and the movie that it includes is relevant to the understanding of sports history in Pennsylvania in that it brings together Pennsylvania general history and cultural history.

Procedures

This particular lesson will be very simple in nature in that it only involves the students watching the movie and taking notes so that they will be able write a paragraph on how immigrants impacted sports history.

Materials

The only needed materials for this lesson are the film *The Molly Maguires*, a television or projector screen, and VCR/DVD player.

Evaluation/Assessments

The main point of the students writing a paragraph to understand the importance of immigrants in sports history is to understand the role that immigrants have played and how modern sports and modern culture has been shaped by immigrant people.

Assignment

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: After watching the movie *The Molly Maguires*, explain how immigrants to the United States have impacted sports history.