

## **ABC's of Colonial Life**

### **Community Objective(s)**

To help the local historical society and colonial reenactment groups provide factual and authentic information; to enhance community awareness of the George Washington Bicentennial; to promote tourism to our Mountain Rhapsodies Festival, an official George Washington Bicentennial event; to help other students through peer exchanges; and to promote the concept of individuals working together for the benefit of the entire community.

### **Background**

This project is to involve students in researching the life and customs in western Virginia during the 1700's. Students will gain information about George Washington's travels through our county and the survey work that he did here. Students will also gain the knowledge that in colonial times, individuals worked together for the survival of the family and growth of the community. Working together for the benefit of the community ties directly into the service-learning concept. Students will be putting their computer skills to work and be searching the Internet for facts about colonial music, crafts, games, clothing, and foods. They will compile all their information into a booklet and share their knowledge and skills with other classes through peer exchange. Students involved in this project will also be attending the Mountain Rhapsodies Festival and sharing their knowledge of colonial music, crafts, etc with the public. Mountain Rhapsodies will be the culmination of a two-month effort to learn about colonial history.

### **Challenged Student conditions**

Students involved in this project are in grades three and four and are legally blind or visually impaired. Some students are also mentally and physically challenged. All Students can be active participants and service providers by;

- ~Providing all materials in large print or Braille
- ~Providing computer access with large print or speech
- ~Providing sighted helpers for totally blind students
- ~Providing templates for coloring and cutting curved lines
- ~Allowing all students to participate in activities

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FOR K-12 CHALLENGED STUDENTS

## Resources

- ~Computer access and copy machine access
- ~Braille and braille paper, art supplies, markers, rulers, templates
- ~Book binder for booklet
- ~Colonial clothing, books, music, materials and artifacts if possible
- ~Refreshments for celebration
- ~Awards and certificates
- ~Parent volunteers and community volunteers
- ~Video camera and recorders for activities

## Timeline

- Month 1
- ~Brainstorm questions related to colonial life from students
  - ~Read a variety of book about colonial life
  - ~Do Internet research on colonial life
  - ~Start to compose booklet on colonial life
  - ~Write letters asking for volunteers
- Month 2
- ~Learn and practice some colonial songs
  - ~Make colonial decorations such as three-cornered hats
  - ~Plan a schedule for sharing and the activities
  - ~Make costumes with help from volunteers
  - ~Participate in peer exchange
  - ~Use a recipe and prepare a colonial food
  - ~Write invitations to other classes to participate
- Month 3
- ~Attend Mountain Rhapsodies Festival and share knowledge of Colonial music, art, clothes, crafts, etc.
  - ~Take pictures of events
  - ~Include the Media for coverage of the event

## Reflection

- ~Write an article and send pictures for the local newspaper
- ~Discuss how the students felt about sharing their activities with others

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### **Celebration**

- ~A celebration will be held for the students at the completion of the activities
- ~Refreshments will be served
- ~At this time the ABC book will be presented to the school principal to pass along to other schools in the county
- ~A picture will be taken for publication in the newspaper
- ~Certificates will be given out to all student participants

### **Academic Objectives**

#### **WV IGOs**

~IGO's can be modified by grade level to meet the diversity of students in each grade level and the special needs population

#### Computer Technology

- ~Using a word processor input information such as stories, reports and narratives (C 3.85)

#### History

- ~Make historical inferences by analyzing artifacts and pictures (H 3.37)

#### General Music

- ~Sing West Virginia heritage songs (M 4.2)

#### Art

- ~Create art that reflects a style of culture from history (A 4.22)

#### Writing

- ~Develop various types of writing including, but not limited to, narrative, informative, and persuasive (W 4.50)

### **Contact Information**

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