

“Did You See THAT Ship?”

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Subject/Grade: Grade 6, Social Studies

Lesson Overview: Students will investigate five types of ships which are docked on or travel the Detroit River: freighter, ice breaker, fireboat, mail boat, or passenger cruise boat. Students will be able to identify and explain why each ship is unique and how it makes an impact on the lives of Detroiters.

Sources Consulted:

www.boatnerds.com

www.DetroitFirehouse.com

www.DiamondJack.com

www.jwestscott.com

Dossin Museum, Detroit, Michigan

www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/

Learning Objective:

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to identify and describe 5 types of ships which travel on the Detroit River: freighter, ice breaker, fireboat, mail boat and passenger cruise boat

Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations:

Social Studies

Economics – The Market Economy

EI.I Individual, Business, and Government Choices

6-EI.I.I Explain how incentives vary in different economic systems.

English Language Arts

Writing – Writing Genre

W.GN.06.01 Students will write cohesive narrative piece such as a memoir, drama, legend, mystery, poetry, or myth that includes appropriate conventions to genre employing literary and plot devices (e.g. internal and/or external conflicts, antagonists/protagonists, personification).

Materials:

Pre Test & Post Test

Netbooks

Tommy Trent's ABC's of the Seaway. The Saint Lawrence Seaway Management Corp. Cornwall, ON. Pages 4, 22, 23 This document can be located at www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/

Powerpoint projected by teacher

Video Clip Record Sheet

New Vocabulary:

“Salty” - ocean going ship

“Laker: - freighter which sails the Great Lakes.

Focus Question(s):

Have you ever spent time along the banks of the Detroit River? If so, you probably have seen at least one type of ship. In this lesson, you are going to learn about 5 types of ships which can be found on the Detroit River. Bring your lifejacket and get ready to board!

Classroom activities:

1. Students complete the Pre-Test.
2. Introduce vocabulary words.
3. Working in pairs, students will brainstorm their responses to the question “What do ships do on the Detroit River?”
4. Teacher will present powerpoint to students. Discuss each type of ship. Point out unique features of each. Allow opportunity for students to ask questions.
5. After each section, in pairs, students will use netbooks to go to the specific sites to gather additional information, using their video record sheet.
6. Students will complete the post test.

Assessment:

Students will select one of the types of boats which either dock or travel on the Detroit River and complete the following 2 page writing assignment. Pretend you have become one of the boats we covered in class: freighter, ice breaker, fireboat, mail boat, or passenger cruise boat, which has the ability to communicate with humans. Using personification, explain what kind of boat you are and what you do on the Detroit River. See grading rubric.

Pre-Test ANSWERS

1. a. an ocean going freighter.
2. a. True
3. b. False
4. a. only sail on the Great Lakes.
5. b. False

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Video Clip Record Sheet

Use this sheet to help you record your observations from watching the clips. You can include more than 2 observations from each clip.

Coast Guard Cutter

- 1.
- 2.

Diamond Jack Cruises

- 1.
- 2.

Detroit Fire Department Fire Boat “Curtis Randolph”

- 1.
- 2.

J.W. Westcott Mail Boat

- 1.
- 2.

Did You See THAT Ship: Pre Test

Number your paper from 1 to 5. Write the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. A “salty” is a(n) _____.
 - a. ocean going freighter.
 - b. freighter which sails the Great Lakes.
 - c. person with high blood pressure.

2. The City of Detroit has a fire boat?
 - a. True
 - b. False

3. There are no longer cruise ships on the Detroit River.
 - a. True
 - b. False

4. Lakers are freighters that _____.
 - a. only sail the Great Lakes.
 - b. play basketball in Los Angeles.
 - c. can sail in the ocean and Great Lakes.

5. Sailors on freighters cannot receive or send mail while they are on their ship.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Post Test

Number your paper from 1 to 5. Write a short answer response to each of these questions.

1. What does it mean to “swish and spit”?

2. What does the Detroit Fire boat do?
3. How can you “cruise” the Detroit River?
4. How can sailors get mail when they are on the Detroit River?
5. What is an ice cutter?

Post Test Answers

1. Ocean going freighters have to rinse out their ballasts with water prior to entering the St. Lawrence Seaway.
2. Our fire boat does the following: assists Coast Guard with rescues, helps in putting out fires, from the water for buildings along the waterfront and for boats on the water, will moor in the Detroit River during the annual summer fireworks.
3. Although you can’t sleep aboard, you can still cruise on the Detroit River aboard the Diamond Jack riverboat.
4. From April 1st to December 23rd each year, the J.W.Wescott mail boat will deliver mail, to freighters sailing up or down the Detroit River within the City of Detroit.
5. An ice cutter is a ship which cuts through thick ice which would prevent ships from sailing up and down the Detroit River. An ice cutter, keeping the Detroit River flowing, allows the sailing season to be extended.

STYLE RUBRIC FOR GRADES 3-8

STYLE: Word Choice, Sentence Fluency, and Voice

Key Questions: Would you keep reading this composition if it were longer? Do the words, phrases, and sentences strengthen the content and allow the reader to move through the writing with ease? **Score Point**

WORD CHOICE

4
Consistent, though not necessarily perfect, control; many strengths present

- precise
- effective
- vivid words and phrases appropriate to the task

3
Reasonable control; some strengths and some weaknesses

- clear but less specific
- includes some interesting words and phrases appropriate to the task

2
Inconsistent control; the weaknesses outweigh the strengths

- generic
- limited
- repetitive
- overused

1
Little or no control; minimal attempt

- functional
- simple (below grade level)
- may be inappropriate to the task

SENTENCE FLUENCY

- fluid, very easy to follow, because of variety in length, structure, and beginnings

- generally varied in length and structure
- Most sentences have varied beginnings.

- little or no variety in length and structure
- Awkward sentences may affect the fluidity of the reading.
- same beginnings

- simple sentences
- no variety
- Construction makes the response difficult to read.

VOICE

(individual personality of the writing)

- compelling and engaging

- clear, but may not be particularly compelling

- weak and/or inconsistent voice

- no voice
- Response is too brief to provide an adequate example of style; minimal attempt.