
ONLY IN CALIFORNIA

Lesson Plan

Describe the development and locations of new industries since the nineteenth century, such as the aerospace, electronics, large-scale commercial agriculture and oil industries.

Analyze the impact of twentieth-century Californians on the nation's artistic and cultural development, including the rise of the entertainment industry (e.g., Walt Disney, John Steinbeck, Dorothea Lange).

OBJECTIVE

Students will look at various inventions, ideas, and objects that are unique to the state. They will come up with their own ideas concerning the uniqueness of California. Students will look at diversity and how it relates to California.

DISCUSSION

As a class or in groups, go over these key words and questions. Brainstorm ideas for these to be used with the activity later in the lesson.

1. Unique: Look up the definition.

- What do you think makes California special and different?

2. Diversity: Look up the definition.

- What does this have to do with the uniqueness of California?
- California is made up of many different cultures and people. What are some things that these groups add to our state that make us unique and are "Only in California?"
- California also has diverse regions. How does this contribute to its uniqueness?

3. Invention, Idea, Influence: Look up definitions.

- What are some other things that were made or thought of in California that could be added to the museum?
- How different would the state of California be without these inventions and ideas?

ACTIVITY

Students can choose to make their own invention of something that one day they would like to see used in California or design a product that could be exclusive to California. Encourage students to use a material that might be unique to California or a product that represents the state. Students can also have the option to write a poem or create an artistic piece about California's uniqueness.