

Lesson Plan: Small Changes

Author: National Museum of Military Vehicles



Grade: 3rd-5th

Wyoming Standards:

SS5.4.1- Describe how small changes can lead to big changes

Duration:

1.5- 2 hour tour of the National Museum of Military Vehicles located in Dubois Wyoming

Introduction:

The National Museum of Military Vehicles will provide a tour of the museum that incorporates the Wyoming state social studies standard listed above. The purpose of this lesson is to show students how one small change can lead to a much larger change or a large outcome.

Key Vocabulary:

Change-

Peace Time-

War Time-

Jumbo Sherman-

Learning Objectives:

- Identify how small changes to the Sherman Tank helped change the outcome of WWII
- Identify how the small change from peacetime to wartime changed the economy.
- Understand how small changes can lead to larger changes in Vietnam

Lesson Overview:

The lesson will begin with students having a discussion about small decisions they made in their lives and how they changed them. We will then get an understanding of prior knowledge and ask students if they can name a time in history when small changes led to bigger changes. If no information is given we will tell them they will be able to name a few after the tour. Large group discussions will engage the students with critical thinking and association with personal lives. In the tour, we will cover Pearl Harbor leading to World War II, the atomic bomb and how it changed science, the Sherman tank to a Jumbo Sherman, the Red Ball Express, and the impact on the front lines.

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Wyoming State Standards Addressed in Lesson:

SS5.4.1- Describe how small changes can lead to big changes

- We discuss how Pearl Harbor was a small change and how it ultimately led to the US being in WWII and how WWII changed science, technology, history, etc.
- We will also discuss how the Red Ball Express was a small change done by the US military but led to the Allies taking more land from Germany.
- In Korea we will discuss how the Truman Doctrine was to stop the spread of communism and the big change it had on the Vietnam War as well as the Korean War.