



CLAUDE PEPPER LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

LESSON PLAN - DIPLOMACY - CUBA

SS 9-12

Cuba and Florida



Activity I: Important Terms and Ideas

Listed below are some important terms and concepts that will give you a better understanding of the material we will cover in this unit.

- Communism
- Embargo
- Immigrant (legal and illegal)
- Miami, FL
- Refugee
- Revolution/Revolutionary
- Socialism
- Treaty
- Unemployment Rate

In your groups, divide these terms up, and define them. When each person has completed his or her portion of the terms, come together as a group and share what you have learned.

Activity II: Researching Cuba's History

Below is a list of important events in Cuba's history. With a partner, research one or two of these events and be prepared to share your findings with the class. Make sure that you explain how each event influenced U.S. and Cuban relations.

1868-78: Ten Years' War:

1898: U.S. battleship *Maine*/Spanish-American War:

1901: Platt Amendment:

1902: Tomás Estrada Palma:

1903: Guantánamo Bay:

1906-9: Charles E. Magoon:

1933: Batista:

1959: Fidel Castro:

1961: Bay of Pigs:

1962: U.S. trade embargo:

1962: Cuban missile crisis:

1980: Mariel boat lift:

1991: Dissolution of the Soviet Union:

1993: Domestic economic reforms:

1994: U.S.-Cuba immigration agreement:

1998: Visit to Cuba by Pope John Paul II:

1999: Elián González:

2006: Fidel Castro hands power over to his brother, Raul:

****Here are some internet sources to get you started:

The Cuban Experience: http://library.thinkquest.org/18355/for_students.html

U.S. Department of State: <http://future.state.gov/>

CNN: www.cnn.com

Time for Kids: <http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/news/index.html>

Scholastic News: <http://teacher.scholastic.com/scholasticnews/index.asp>

History of Cuba: <http://www.historyofcuba.com/cuba.htm>

FIU history of Cuba site: <http://www.fiu.edu/~fcf/history.html>

****Feel free to use other resources as well, including encyclopedias, your history textbooks, etc.

Activity II: Immigration Then and Now, a Jigsaw Activity

Now that we have all learned something about Cuba's history, let's look at the issue of Cuban immigration to the U.S., and at U.S. immigration in general. Below are some websites with information about immigration in the U.S. The first three chronicle the history of Cuban immigration, and the fourth discusses a current issue in the U.S. immigration debate. The fifth resource is a collection of letters between Claude Pepper, a former senator and congressman from Florida, and some of his Miami constituents.

Divide the class into five groups and assign each group one of the sources below. That group's task is to make sure that all of its members become experts on the information that they are assigned. At the end of the period or during next class, create new groups; each of these new groups should contain five people, one from each of the expert groups. These new groups will in turn make certain that each "expert" teaches the other group members what she/he has learned. For more information on how jigsaw activities work, go to:

http://www.education-world.com/a_curr/curr324.shtml or
<http://www.ncela.gwu.edu/practice/itc/lessons/dnjigsaw.html>.

Each of the five groups will research on one of these sources:

1. Cuban Immigration: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/immig/cuban5.html>

2. Articles about Cuban Immigration: <http://www.latinamericanstudies.org/cuba-immigration-1.htm>

3. U.S. Immigration Support:
<http://www.usimmigrationsupport.org/cubaimmigration.html>

4. U.S. / Mexico Fence: <http://www.globalsecurity.org/security/systems/mexico-wall.htm>

5. Along with these internet resources, please refer to the pages at the end of this packet. These letters were written in the 1960's and reflect the increasing number of Cuban immigrants in the Miami, FL area.

Activity III: Future U.S. Policy Regarding Cuba

Now that every member of your group understands the history of Cuban immigration to the U.S., this is the question you now face:

What should U.S./Cuban policy be in 2007? What lessons from Cuba can we apply and apply to other foreign policy areas?

Your group's task is to put together a 15 minute presentation that suggests a future for U.S./Cuban policy, complete with visual aids and multiple speakers.