

# **American Industrial Revolution**

By Jennifer Cunningham - Bartow Middle School

## **I. Lesson Summary**

### **Summary**

Students will conduct internet research of inventions born of the first American Industrial Revolution (1790-1860) and their impact on American's future. Students will then present their inventions to the class and each student will keep a log of the inventions presented. For a final assessment, students will write one paragraph explaining which of the presented inventions, in their opinion, made the greatest impact in the United States.

### **Objectives**

Students will explain how the industrial revolution affected life in America.

**Sunshine State Standards:** SS.A.1.3.3.1, SS.A.1.3.2.1, SS.A.1.3.2.2

**Curriculum Map Topic:** A Nation in Transition

### **U.S. History Event or Era**

American Industrial Revolution — 1790-1860

### **Grade Level**

This lesson has been designed for the middle school American History classroom (8<sup>th</sup> grade).

### **Materials**

"*Call to Freedom*" textbooks  
Activity Direction Sheet  
Computers with Internet Access  
Graphic Organizer

### **Lesson Time**

Four 45-minute classes (one day for introductory and discussion/research, one day for research, and two days for presentation/assessment).

## II. Lesson Procedures

### Procedures

1. Provide an overview of the American Industrial Revolution. (Chapter 12 in the "*Call to Freedom*" textbook addresses this topic).
2. Hand out Activity Directions Sheets (included in the "Activities" section of this lesson) to each student and give assignment instructions to the entire class.
3. Take students to your school's internet research lab.
4. Students will work individually or with a partner to complete the research activity.
5. Students will present their invention to the class. Their method of presentation could be a PowerPoint or on an overhead projector, depending on technology availability at your school.
6. While students are presenting, the rest of the class should be completing a log on the provided graphic organizer (also included in the "Activities" section of this lesson).
7. Students will complete final assessment.

### III. Activities

#### **“American Industrial Revolution” Internet Research Activity**

During this activity you will be researching an invention created during the American Industrial Revolution (1790-1860). This assignment is worth a total of 80 points.

1. Visit the following website: [www.inventors.about.com/library/weekly/aa111100a.htm](http://www.inventors.about.com/library/weekly/aa111100a.htm)
2. Choose an invention that was developed between the years 1790 and 1860.
3. Once you have chosen your invention, answer the questions below.

**Questions:**

- What is the name of the invention? [2 points]
  - Who invented it? Write a one-paragraph biography of the inventor providing basic information such as birthday, birthplace, where they lived, their occupation, an interesting fact, and the inventor's death. [15 points]
  - When was the invention created? [3 points]
  - What is the purpose of the invention? [10 points]
  - How did this invention affect America? [15 points]
  - Locate a picture of the invention or inventor. [5 points—extra 5 for both]
4. Once you have completed the research, create a PowerPoint presentation using the information you found. Each question should be answered on a separate slide for a total of 6 slides. [30 points—5 points per slide]







## V. Resources

### Internet resources:

[www.inventors.about.com/library/weekly/aa111100a.htm](http://www.inventors.about.com/library/weekly/aa111100a.htm)