

Title: Journey along two National Roads, U.S. 40 and the Tōkaidō of Japan: Teaching Historical Thinking Skills, Grade 4

Introduction/Summary of lesson: Students will use historical maps and photos to write a narrative. Students will learn through journals about life in early 20th century along the National Road. Students will compose an historical fictional prose account of their journey on the National Road.

Subject(s)/Grade level(s): Social Studies/History, Grade 4

Duration of lesson: Two class periods (50-60 minutes)

Connection to standards/common core: Social Studies- History Strand (Ohio) Grade 4:

- **Historical Thinking and Skills – #2:** Primary and secondary sources can be used to create historical narratives. (Grade 4)

Learning Objectives: Students will be able to use primary sources to write a narrative about life in Ohio from an historical perspective.

Materials needed:

- Resources from the "[Journey along the Tōkaidō](#)" website
- Historic National Road-Image Results
- Traveling the National Road: Across the Centuries on America's First Highway by Merritt Lerley
- Refer to online links listed with each activity
- [National Road/Route 40 \(Maps and other resources\)](#)

Pre-Assessment: Brainstorm as a class, "What would be good information to include when writing a story about a trip?"

Lesson Activities:

Activity: "This is my story about what happened in 1900, 1920, or 1940 on my Trip along the National Highway"

- Students will use the online source, <http://www.lincolnhighwayassoc.org/> consisting of historical photos and journals about the National Road U.S. 40 in order to gather facts as to why Ohio earned each of the following nicknames: "Gateway to the West" and the "Heart of it All."
- Maps of the Lincoln Highway http://lincolnhighway.jameslin.name/by_state/
- Lincoln Highway Newspaper articles (1913) <http://lincolnhighway.jameslin.name/history/#articles>
- Allow students to choose or divide the class into one of 3 time periods: 1900, 1920, and 1940.
- Students will write a narrative based on the facts gathered.

Teacher's Notes- Background Information about the Tōkaidō source:

To show change over time and compare cultures as well as learn more about a very important part of Japanese history and culture, the "[Journey along the Tōkaidō](#)" has been created using various primary source materials. Japan's National Road, the Tōkaidō Road, from Tokyo to Kyoto in Japan is examined at various time periods (1830s, 1920s, and present day).

Students will study two primary source materials: the *Tōkaidō gojūsantsugi manga emaki* (The Fifty Three Stations of the Tōkaidō Manga Scroll, which will be referred to as the “Tōkaidō Manga Scroll”) and the *The Fifty-Three Stations of the Tōkaidō* woodblock prints. This Tōkaidō manga scroll was created by 18 members of the Tokyo Manga Association during a trip approximating the route of the old Tōkaidō in 1921 and depicts scenes of Japanese culture, history, economics, daily life, transportation, architecture, and industry. Utagawa (Andō) Hiroshige's *The Fifty-Three Stations of the Tōkaidō* (1833–1834 in the Hōeidō edition) is a series of woodblock prints (*ukiyo-e*) of the stations along the Tōkaidō. These *ukiyo-e* prints became enormously popular and have been reprinted countless times down to the present. The scroll is part of an online module, “Journey along the Tōkaidō,” which includes a video of the scroll, links to the *ukiyo-e* (woodblock prints from 1833-34) and links to sections of the Tōkaidō area today, along with other background material.

Though the title is *The Fifty Three Stations of the Tōkaidō Manga Scroll*, the paintings are numbered 1 through 55. This is because the starting location, Nihonbashi, and the final destination, Kyōto, were not numbered in Utagawa (Andō) Hiroshige's original *The Fifty-Three Stations of the Tōkaidō* (1833–1834 in the Hōeidō edition), and the manga scroll follows this precedent. Japanese names are given throughout in Japanese order, family name first and given name last.

Post- Assessment- Using the facts gathered; develop a quick jeopardy game with the time periods as categories.

Extension activities/Extending the lesson: Have students view the Journey along the Tōkaidō website then brainstorm what seemed different or special, especially if not seen along U.S. 40.

Lesson plan is available on: <http://u.osu.edu/journeyalongthetokaido/lesson-plans/>

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