



Maryland History on the B&O Railroad

Pre-Visit Lesson

Grades: 8th grade - High School

Class Time Needed: 45 minutes

Big Idea Students will understand how Maryland has been an influential state throughout the history and development of the United States.

Maryland Curriculum Standards

Social Studies Framework

- Essential Question (8th grade): What fostered the development of distinct regions in colonial North America?
- Essential Question (High School): To what extent did post-war economic growth distribute benefits equitably?

Materials Needed

- WebQuest document (digital or paper copy)
- Internet access
- Devices for students

Teacher Resources

- What is a WebQuest? Article https://www.teach-nology.com/tutorials/web_quests/
- Maryland History Pages for Student Research <https://sos.maryland.gov/mdkids/Pages/Timeline.aspx>



Lesson Procedure:

Introduction:

Ask the students if they have ever considered what life was like for people who lived in Maryland hundreds of years ago. Is your life different now because of people or events from the past?

Explain that students will be exploring the history of the state of Maryland with a WebQuest.

Direct Instruction (Student Activity):

Students can complete the WebQuest individually or in pairs/groups. This activity will most likely require thirty minutes to complete.

Conclusion:

Prompt students to discuss what they learned with the following questions -

- Why is it important to know about the history of the state we live in?
- Did anything you read surprise you? Did you learn any interesting facts?
- What event from Maryland's past has made an impact on how we live today?
- How is the state of Maryland different from other states?



Name _____



Maryland History WebQuest

Directions: Use the suggested website to answer the following questions about Maryland's history throughout the past 400 years.

Website: <https://sos.maryland.gov/mdkids/Pages/Timeline.aspx>

1. Why was the colony named "Maryland"?

2. What became legal in Maryland in the year 1664?

3. What year did Annapolis become the capitol city of Maryland?

4. What is the name of the oldest continuous newspaper published in the United States?
What year was it founded?

5. What year was the city of Baltimore founded?

6. How many Marylanders signed the Declaration of Independence?
Bonus: What were their names?

7. How many months was Annapolis the capitol of the United States?





8. Why did Maryland donate land in 1791?

9. What two major construction projects began in 1828?

10. Who used a disguise to board a train and seek freedom in 1838?

11. List three important events that occurred between 1840 and 1860 in Maryland.

12. Why did Maryland abolish slavery in 1864?

13. How many years were there between the abolition of slavery and the first African American student attending the University of Maryland School of Law?

14. Who was Thurgood Marshall?

15. Where can you find a statue of Alex Haley?

