



10 Minute Learning Activity

Database: SIRS Discoverer

Topic/Subject Area: Language Arts/John Henry

Grade Level: 4th grade

Essential Question: Who was John Henry?
How is this character like and different from other folktale characters?

OR

Who is the Folktale character and what are his/her characteristics? How is this character like and different from other folktale characters?

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Academic Content Standards:

Standard: English Language Arts: Reading Process: Concepts of Print, Comprehension Strategies and Self-Monitoring Strategies

Benchmark: B. Apply effective reading comprehension strategies, including summarizing and making predictions, and comparisons using information in text, between text and across subject areas.

Grade Level Indicator: 3. Compare and contrast information on a single topic or theme across different text and non-text resources

Search Steps:

1. Enter <http://www.infohio.org>
2. Click on "Resources for Grades K-6" or "Core Collection"
3. Choose SIRS Discoverer and click
4. Click SIRS Discoverer on the next screen
6. If it asks you to authenticate you will need to type in your username and password. Your teacher, school librarian, or technology coordinator may have this.
7. From Search box, choose "Subject Heading" and enter "Legendary Character" (not "Legendary Characters")
8. Click on "Search"
9. Choose link to "Henry, John (Legendary character)"
10. Click on any article title with easy to moderate reading level, indicated by blue or green book icon in left column

11. Read about John Henry. (Hint: Some articles may include characters other than just John Henry. Read about them, too.)
12. Go to Top of page, click on "Home Page"
10. Repeat steps 5 and 6
11. Choose link to a different character
12. Repeat steps 8 and 9
13. Read the article and answer the essential question

Additional Comments on Search Process:

1. There are other ways to find these articles, such as choose "Keyword/Natural Language" and enter "John Henry and tall tale". This will lead you to the articles about legendary characters.
2. For music and singing of songs about John Henry, use Internet Explorer and go to http://www.ibiblio.org/john_henry/songlist.html
3. For a review of the book John Henry by Julius Lester go to: http://www.eduplace.com/tview/pages/j/John_Henry_Julius_Lester.html