



South Carolina

Full STEAM Ahead:

Connecting Library of Congress Primary Sources and Graphic Novels

Lesson Plan Template

Author(s):

Lindsay Adams

Grade Level(s):

Middle School

Subject:

Social Studies

Length of Class: 1 Day (60 minutes)



Image Citation:

Breaker boys working in Ewen Breaker of Pennsylvania Coal Co. S. Pittston, Pa." by Lewis Hine, January 1911

Lesson Title:	The Impact of Child Labor in American Industry
Overview:	This lesson examines the effects of child labor during the Industrial Revolution in America, exploring its social and economic implications.
Learning Objective:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze primary source photographs to draw conclusions about working conditions for child laborers in early 20th century America. 2. Evaluate the social and economic impacts of child labor on American society.
Standards:	<p>Standard 7-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the concepts of economics, including the factors of production, the role of supply and demand, and the characteristics of different types of economies.</p> <p>Indicator 7-4.4: Explain the effects of the Industrial Revolution on the economies of the United States and South Carolina, including technological innovations, changes in transportation and communication, working conditions, the role of labor unions, and the rise of entrepreneurship.</p>
Essential Question:	How did child labor during the Industrial Revolution reflect and shape American society's values and economic priorities?
Supporting Question(s):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What were typical working conditions for child laborers in early 20th century America? 2. How did child labor impact family dynamics and education opportunities? 3. What societal changes led to the eventual regulation of child labor?
Digital Primary and Secondary Sources:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Noon hour in an Indianapolis furniture factory. Aug., 1908." This photograph by Lewis Hine shows young boys working in a furniture factory, providing another perspective on child labor in different industries. 2. "Girls running warping machines in Lowell (Mass.) mills." Another Lewis Hine photograph, this one depicts young girls working in textile mills, illustrating the widespread use of child labor across various sectors.

	<p>3. "Child Labor in America 1908-1912: Photographs of Lewis W. Hine" This is a curated collection of Hine's photographs, offering a broader context for child labor practices across different industries and regions.</p> <p>4. "Mill Children in Macon" (1909) This photograph shows a group of young mill workers in Georgia, providing a Southern perspective on child labor to complement the Pennsylvania coal mine image.</p> <p>5. "The Child Labor Amendment" (1924) This is a secondary source document discussing the proposed constitutional amendment to regulate child labor, offering insight into the reform movement and legislative efforts to address the issue.</p>
Required Classroom Materials:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Computer and projector for displaying primary source images ● Student notebooks or digital devices for note-taking ● Printed copies of primary source analysis worksheets
Classroom Environment:	<p>Arrange desks in small groups to facilitate discussion. Create a timeline on one wall showing major events in child labor history and reform. Present information from the promethean board while also allowing students to view the images on their personal devices from our classroom portal, canvas.</p>
Differentiation and Adaptations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide simplified versions of primary source texts for struggling readers ● Offer audio descriptions of images for visually impaired students ● Allow advanced students to research and present on specific child labor laws or reformers

Estimated Time Needed	Detailed Description of Teaching and Learning
Introduction 10 minutes	Begin by projecting the Lewis Hine photograph and ask students to silently observe for 1 minute. Then, lead a brief discussion on initial observations and reactions.
Primary Source Analysis (20 minutes):	Guide students through a structured analysis of the photograph using the Library of Congress's primary source analysis tool. Focus on details that reveal working conditions, age of workers, and potential hazards.
Context and Discussion (15 minutes):	Provide historical context about child labor during the Industrial Revolution. Facilitate a class discussion on the supporting questions, encouraging students to make connections between the primary source and broader societal issues.
Reflection and Modern Connections (15 minutes):	Ask students to reflect in writing on how child labor practices of the past compare to current labor standards and children's rights. Discuss as a class, drawing parallels to modern social justice issues.

Assessments:	Students will create a one-page reflection comparing child labor practices from the primary source to modern labor standards, citing specific evidence from the photograph and class discussion. This will be evaluated using a rubric aligned with the learning objectives.
Learning Extensions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research current child labor issues globally and create awareness campaigns ● Explore how photography was used as a tool for social reform by studying more of Lewis Hine's work