



Lesson Plan for Grade 4

People and Perspectives of the Revolution

Subject: Social Studies **Grade Level:** 4 **SC State Standards:**

- 4-3.4 Explain how the American Revolution affected attitudes toward and the future of slavery, women, and Native Americans.

Objective: Students will be able to describe the varying experiences of different groups during the American Revolution in South Carolina.

Materials:

- "Pockets of the Past" bags (paper bags or envelopes labeled with a different person/group)
- Inside each bag: 1-3 simple, age-appropriate primary source excerpts or descriptions of artifacts related to that group's experience (e.g., a letter from a woman, a description of a Gullah-Geechee basket, or a drawing of a Catawba warrior)
- Chart paper or whiteboard to create a class-wide "Perspectives" chart.

Procedure:

1. **Introduction (5 minutes):** Explain to students that history isn't just about famous generals and big battles. It's also about everyday people. Tell them, "Today, we're going

to become history detectives and look into the 'pockets' of people from the past to understand their lives during the Revolution in South Carolina."

2. **Artifact Investigation (25 minutes):** Divide students into small groups. Give each group a "Pocket of the Past" bag (e.g., "The Enslaved Person's Pocket," "The Woman's Pocket," "The Cherokee Nation's Pocket"). Each group will read the primary source description or look at the artifact inside their bag. They will discuss what they've learned about this group's life and challenges during the Revolution.
3. **Sharing Perspectives (20 minutes):** Bring the class back together. Have each group share what they discovered. As they share, create a class chart with columns for "Group," "What They Wanted," and "What Changed for Them." Make sure to specifically connect the discussion to South Carolina's role, such as the experiences of enslaved people fighting for both sides, or the role of women in managing farms and businesses while men were away.
4. **Conclusion & Assessment (10 minutes):** Ask students to reflect on why it's important to learn about all different kinds of people from the past. Have them write a single sentence summarizing one new thing they learned about a group's experience in South Carolina.