



ACTIVITY OVERVIEW



Q3 • Common Ground & Historical Identity • High School

Exploring Our Cultural Uniqueness and History Parallel Historical Events

Theme: Common Ground & Historical Identity

Time Required: 3-5 class sessions

Materials Needed:

- Research resources (library books, online databases, primary sources)
- Notebook or writing journal
- Access to computer or paper for article design

Activity Overview

In this activity, students will research two connected or comparable historical events, one in New Mexico's history and one in U.S. or world history. They will analyze causes, outcomes, and perspectives to uncover patterns or contrasts, then write a journalistic-style article explaining their findings. This activity builds historical analysis, synthesis, and persuasive writing skills. It can be extended into a classroom or digital "newspaper" collection showcasing different eras and viewpoints.

Learning Objectives

- Identify connections between two historical events, one local and one national or global.
- Analyze patterns of independence, conflict, or progress across time and place.
- Write a clear, factual, and engaging journalistic article comparing the events.
- Reflect on how history repeats or transforms through cultural context.

Essential Questions

- How can comparing historical events help us understand change and continuity?
- What lessons from the past can guide us today?
- How do journalists decide which perspectives and details to include?

Inspired Conversation Topics

- Which modern events remind you of past struggles or victories?
- How does media shape how people remember history?
- What responsibility do we have when retelling stories from history?
- How can studying the past help communities heal or grow?