

Let's Map Lake Tahoe

Topic/Era: Steam Ship Tahoe/ Nevada History

Subject: United States History

Grade Level: 7th

Length of Lesson: 1- 50 minute class period

Background:

Prior to the Steam Ship Tahoe in 1896, steamships served as supporting vessels to the logging industry in Tahoe and first appeared in about 1864. The peak period for steamers was between the 1880's and 1900. During this time about 10 steamships operated on the lake. Between 1890 and 1895 there were seven steamers working on the lake during the summers.

Duane L. Bliss, the lumber magnate of the Tahoe Basin, realized logging was fading and he would need to diversify his business interests. He formed the Lake Tahoe Transportation Company in 1894 and commissioned the Steam Ship Tahoe from the Union Iron Works in San Francisco. The Steam Ship Tahoe was launched on June 24, 1896, this was the beginning of Tourism and Gaming in the Tahoe Basin. The S.S. Tahoe operated as a passenger ship offering lake tours and transportation to other ports of call on the lake. The Steamer Tahoe also transported freight, supplies, and U.S. mail.

Because of new technology however, the S.S. Tahoe was to decay at their moorings in Tahoe City and the historical icon was laid to rest in Glenbrook Bay. The S.S. Tahoe was pivotal in the economic success that the Tahoe Basin enjoys today.

This lesson will serve as the 2nd lesson in a unit or can be used as a stand alone lesson.

Objectives:

Students will be able to read and analyze a map of Lake Tahoe.

Students will be able to create a map of Lake Tahoe.

Standards:

G5.4.1 Identify and use intermediate directions on a compass rose to locate places on a map of Nevada.

G5.4.3 Construct a map of Nevada displaying human and physical features.

G5.4.4 utilize different types of Nevada maps.

Materials List:

Pencil

Colored pencils or crayons

Sheet of paper

Map of Lake Tahoe: <http://www.carnelianwoods.com/images/ltareamap.jpg>

(Make enough copies for students to work with a partner)

Lake Tahoe map and directions page (Make enough copies for each student in the class)

In Class Activities:

1. Have the students find a partner and work with that partner for the lesson. Ask the class to brainstorm, with their partner, items that could be found on a map. Give the class a few minutes for discussion. Then have students share their answers with the whole class. Write down ideas on the board. (Possible ideas: title, compass rose, map key, cities, mountains, rivers).
2. Tell the class that they will be studying a map of Lake Tahoe and will then be creating a map of Lake Tahoe.
3. Pass out the Lake Tahoe Area Map (the colored map) to each pair of students. Give them a few minutes to look at the map.
4. Pass out the directions page for the map. Have the class answer the 5 questions on the top of the directions page. When the class is done, review answers with the class.
5. Pass out the Lake Tahoe Map. Students will follow the directions on the bottom of the directions page to create a map of Lake Tahoe.
6. Students will turn in their maps at the end of class.

Exit Pass: On a separate sheet of paper, have the students list 5 cities that can be found on the shores of Lake Tahoe.

Evaluation/Assessment:

Students will turn in the maps that they created in class today.

Analyze the map of Lake Tahoe and answer the following questions:

1. Glenbrook is located on what side of Lake Tahoe? _____
 2. What direction is Tahoe City from Glenbrook? _____
 3. What river flows out of Lake Tahoe? _____
 4. Lake Tahoe is in which two states? _____
 5. Estimate what percentage of the lake is in which state. _____
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Using the map of Lake Tahoe, follow the steps below to complete the map provided.

1. Color Lake Tahoe blue.
2. Label California and color it orange.
3. Label Nevada and color it yellow.
4. Label the Truckee River and color it blue.
5. Label the following cities on the map:
Tahoe City

Glenbrook
South Lake Tahoe
Incline Village
King's Beach

Homewood

Stateline

Emerald Bay

Zephyr Cove

1. Label the following mountain peaks on the map:
Mt. Rose

Mt. Tallac

1. Draw the route that the S.S. Tahoe would have taken from Tahoe City to Glenbrook in red.
2. Make a map key or legend for your map.
3. Make a compass rose.

