

The Canadian Caper: Canada and the Iranian Hostage Crisis

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Grade Level	7
Duration	2 class periods

National Standards

GEOGRAPHY

Element 4: Human Systems

13. How the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of the Earth's surface.

Element 6: The Uses of Geography

17. How to apply geography to interpret the past.

AZ Standards

ELA

Production and Distribution of Writing

7.W.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

Arizona Social Science Standards

GEOGRAPHY

Examining human population and movement helps individuals understand past, present, and future conditions on Earth's surface.

7.G3.4 Evaluate human population and movement may cause conflict or promote cooperation.

HISTORY

Cycles of conflict and cooperation have shaped relations among people, places, and environments.

7.H2.1 Investigate how conflict can be both unifying and divisive throughout communities, societies, nations, and the world.

Overview

There are moments in history that bring countries and people together. American history classes teach about how France assisted the American colonists in the Revolutionary War and how the United States joined with its allies to fight the Axis powers during World War II. But how many students know what Canada has done to help the United States? This is a great story of cooperation that was made into an award winning movie, *Argo*.

Purpose

In this lesson, students will gain a better understanding of how Canada aided the United States during the Iranian Hostage Crisis.

Materials

- The Canadian Caper PowerPoint
- Canadian Caper reading
- The Canadian Caper Teacher Script
- News Article Writing Assignment
- News Article Grading Rubric
- News Article Scoring Sheet

- Computer, LCD projector or Smart Board, Internet

Objectives

The student will be able to:

1. Explain what The Canadian Caper was and why it was implemented.
2. Explain ways in which Canada aided the United States during The Canadian Caper.

Procedures

Prior to the Lesson: Familiarize yourself with the script to the PowerPoint so slides are advanced at the proper times. If you choose to show the trailer to the movie, it begins with an advertisement.

SESSION ONE

Note: Advance the power point slides according to the Teacher Script so that students have a visual of what they are reading.

1. Project the first slide of The Canadian Caper power point. Tell students that they are going to be reading about a joint operation between Canada and the United States to rescue

American diplomats during the Iranian Hostage Crisis of 1979-81.

2. Distribute The Canadian Caper reading. Explain that as a class they will be reading aloud the handout and highlighting or underlining important details about The Canadian Caper.
3. After reading the first paragraph, model what you as the teacher would have marked as important and why. Do the same with the remaining paragraphs, but have students give their input as to what was important and why. Let students know that they may add or delete anything on their copies they feel is needed.
4. At the conclusion of the reading, tell students to save the reading as they will be using it to complete an assignment during the next class period.

SESSION TWO

1. Distribute the News Article Writing Assignment. Explain to students that they will be writing an article for their school newspaper explaining The Canadian Caper.
2. Emphasize that their article needs to include, who, what, when, where, how, and why. They are to use The Canadian Caper handout and any other resources they choose to complete this.
3. Distribute and explain the News Article Grading Rubric. Then allow students to begin work. The final copy of their article will be due the next class period.

Assessment

Using the rubric and scoring sheet provided, grade the students' news articles. The final score is achieved by adding the points earned in each category on the scoring guide. Mastery will be considered at 16 out of 21 points possible or higher.

Extensions

Students could research other events that show cooperation among nations (D-Day, NAFTA, European Union, the Gulf War, 9/11) and report their findings in the form of a power point.

Sources

"Canadian Caper", www.thedailyomnivore.net

"The Canadian Caper",
<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/search?search=canadian+caper>

"Ken Taylor and the Canadian Caper",
https://www.international.gc.ca/history-histoire/people-gens/ken_taylor.aspx?lang=eng

"Canadian Caper", www.en.wikipedia.org