

Neil Armstrong Learning Stations Lesson Plan

Subject area: English Language Arts

Grade Level: 8

Essential Question:

How does using a variety of sources of information result in a deeper understanding of a person's life?

Objective(s):

- Students will review prior knowledge of Neil Armstrong's ancestry details.
- Students will rotate among three learning stations to gather additional information about Neil Armstrong's life.
- Students will make connections between the resources they've explored and their own family history project.

8th Grade English Language Arts Standards	8th Grade Information and Technology Standards (ITES)	<u>AASL Standards for Learners</u>
RI.8.7 - Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums (e.g., print or digital text, video, multimedia) to present a particular topic or idea. W.8.7 - Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.	8.SI.1.2 - Evaluate content for relevance to the assigned task.	I.A.2 - Learners display curiosity and initiative by recalling prior and background knowledge as context for new meaning. IV.B.1 - Learner gather information appropriate to the task by seeking a variety of sources. IV.B.2 - Learners gather information appropriate to the task by collecting information representing diverse perspectives.

Materials:

- *Neil Armstrong Learning Stations* worksheet
- Artifacts at each of the 3 Learning Stations

Vocabulary:

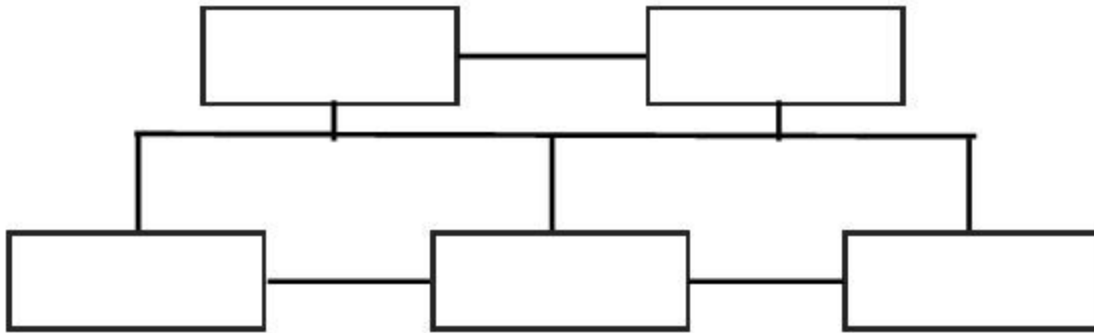
Inference	Transcribe	Obituary
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Prior Knowledge:

- Students have already explored Neil Armstrong and his family in the 1940 US Census and have gained a basic understanding of who they were and where they lived.

Lesson Sequence	Time Allotted
<u>Agenda and Lesson Introduction</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review Learning Objectives and Vocabulary2. Distribute <i>Neil Armstrong Learning Stations</i> worksheet3. Explanation of expectations at each station	7 min.
<u>Learning Stations activity</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Students are divided evenly among the three learning stations.2. Students work with a partner to complete each station (allot 8 minutes per station). If students finish before it's time to move to the next station, they are to reflect on how that station source type will help them with their family history project (last page of their handout)3. After students complete the stations, give students several minutes to complete the Your Final Reflections portion of their handout..	30 min.
<u>End-of-Class Reflection</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>How does using a variety of sources of information result in a deeper understanding of a person's life?</i>• <i>How does today's learning correlate with your family history research project?</i>	8 min.

Discovering Neil Armstrong **Family History Learning Stations**



Learning Station #1: Historical Newspapers

Newspapers contain lots of clues for genealogy researchers. In the “*Parents are Glad Son is Named an Astronaut*” newspaper article, write down 5 interesting pieces of information about Neil Armstrong and/or his family members that you **WOULD NOT** find in a census record.

Learning Station #1 material:

Parents Are Glad Son Is Named An Astronaut

COLUMBUS. (AP)— Parents of an Ohioan picked as one of the nation's nine new astronauts have expressed pride and happiness.

Stephen K. Armstrong of Wapakoneta, a state employe for 32 years, said he spoke for his wife and himself over selection of their son, Neil Armstrong, 32.

"HIS MOTHER and I are very happy that we are the parents of a son selected for such a high honor," the father said. "We naturally are quite proud. This is what he wanted. We hope that everything goes for the best."

Armstrong spoke from his office here where he is an administration specialist in the mental hygiene department. Mrs. Armstrong was in Wapakoneta where she is an office worker.

The father said Neil's brother and sister also are enthusiastic. They are Dean Armstrong, 27, an engineer for General Motors in Anderson, Ind., and Mrs. June Hoffman, 29, a nurse and wife of Dr. J. R. Hoffman, Menomonee Falls, Wis.

Neil's father asserted that as

an astronaut "there will be less anxiety on our part than when he flew combat missions in Korea." Neil had 78 combat missions and 113 reconnaissance flights.

The father added that he considered Neil's flights in the X-15 experimental jet more dangerous than space flight in a capsule with automatic controls. He said his son became interested in mathematics and aviation as a youth. He also was an Eagle

Scout and later a troop leader.

WHEN HIS HOWETOWN of Wapakoneta, near Lima in northwestern Ohio, observed Neil Armstrong day last May 14, the pilot credited his former science teacher with stimulating his interest.

The teacher, John G. Crites, retired from his post at Blume high school recently but teaches part time at Cridersville and Wapakoneta parochial school.

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Learning Station #2: Analyzing Photographs

Select **ONE** photograph to analyze. Complete the following:

Observation:

Ø Study the photograph. Form an overall impression of the photograph and then examine individual people and items. Next, divide the photo into quadrants and study each section to see what new details become visible.

Ø Use the chart to list people, objects, and activities in the photograph.

People	Objects	Activities

Ideas for Photo Analysis activity adapted from Photo Analysis Worksheet that was designed and developed by the Education Staff at the National Archives and Records Administration.

Inference:

Ø Based on what you have observed above, list two things you might infer from this photograph.

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What questions does this photograph raise in your mind?

Where could you look to find the answers to those questions?

Learning Station #2 materials:



Image Source:

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/de/RIAN_archive_837790_Valentina_Tereshkova_and_Neil_Armstrong.jpg



Created by Kristen Ziller, Library Media Specialist, and Laura Richardson, English Language Arts Teacher.

Image Source: https://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/images/content/662790main_lcc-apollo.jpg

Learning Station #3: Obituaries and Tombstones

Read the obituary for Stephen K. Armstrong. List the survivors' names and how they're related to Stephen:

What are three additional pieces of information that you find out about Stephen's life?

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Look at the tombstone and read the description underneath. How is visiting or looking at a tombstone helpful for genealogy research?

Learning Station #3 materials:

Stephen K. Armstrong

SIDNEY, Ohio — Stephen K. Armstrong, 82, Sidney, died Saturday, Feb. 3, 1990, at Dorothy Love Center.

Mr. Armstrong was born Aug. 26, 1907, in St. Marys. He was employed for 40 years by Ohio as an examiner and administrator. He retired in 1970 as the assistant director of the Department of Mental Hygiene and Correction in Columbus. He was the father of Neil Armstrong, who in 1969 became the first man to walk on the moon.

Survivors include his wife, Viola Engel; two sons, Neil of Lebanon and Dean of Florence, Kan.; a daughter, June Hoffman of Sierra Vista, Ariz.; 12 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

The funeral is today at St. Paul's United Church of Christ. Burial will be in Greenlawn Cemetery in Wapakoneta.



Stephen Koenig Armstrong

BIRTH 26 Aug 1907 Saint Marys, Auglaize County, Ohio, USA

DEATH 3 Feb 1990 Ohio, USA

BURIAL [Greenlawn Cemetery](#) Wapakoneta, Auglaize County, Ohio, USA

PLOT M-192

MEMORIAL ID 22575085

Source: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/22575085/stephen-koenig-armstrong#>

Your Final Reflections

Source Type	How could each of these source types help you in YOUR research?
<i>Historical Newspapers</i>	
<i>Photographs</i>	
<i>Hand-written documents</i>	
<i>Obituaries and Tombstones</i>	
<i>Census records</i>	
<i>Source of choice</i>	