

Computer Lesson #1

Subject: Social Studies: Agriculture

Grade Level: 7-8

McRel Standards: US History Era 6: The development of the Industrial United States (1870-1900)

Benchmark: Understands how the rise of corporations, heavy industry, and mechanized farming transformed American society.

Iowa Model Core Literacy: Writing: Uses writing as a tool for learning

Curriculum: Uses an effective writing process

Anticipatory Set: How are the designs of farm buildings (barns) today different from those in the late 1800's, and the early 1900s.?

Objective: The students will be able to reproduce the barn designs of gambrel, gable, and gothic using different draw tools on the computer. The drawings are to be done in the landscape layout. Students are encouraged to add as much detail as possible: doors, windows, cupola, weather vane, lightening rods, alignment of barn boards (either horizontal or vertical) vents, etc.

Students should complete the drawings in black and white. Students are encouraged to attempt a drawing in 3D if possible. Students should be encouraged to experiment with the different tools on the tool panel (not just the rectangle and oval). The polygon tool is ideal for drawing the roof. The freehand tools would help with different landscape features.

After the students have replicated the gambrel, gable, and gothic styles of barns, they are to create their own barn modern barn design using the draw tool on the computer.

Assessment: The student will complete three drawings (one each of gambrel, gable and gothic) as well as one of their own design. In a short paragraph, they will compare and contrast each roof design. In another paragraph, they will explain the design that they created and how it will better meet the needs of today's farmer.