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What Was Job Carr's Life Like Before He Moved West?



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Introduction

This lesson is designed for 3rd and 4th grade students. It provides students with an opportunity to learn about Job Carr's life before he travelled west along the Oregon Trail. Students complete a close reading of a first person narrative of Job Carr's life in the 1800s before he arrived in Puget Sound. Students use the narrative to identify important events in Job's life, then create a timeline and an illustrated storyboard showcasing these events. This lesson includes reading, social studies, writing and art.

Vocabulary

Covered Wagon: A large wagon with a covered top pulled by horses, mules or oxen. The cover is useful to keep out wind and rain. Pioneers in the 1800s often used covered wagons to travel long distances, such as the Oregon Trail.

Oregon Trail: a historic overland route across the Western United States used by travelers in the mid-1800s.

Oxen: Full-grown male cattle. Cattle, buffaloes, and bison belong to this group of mammals.

Pioneer: a person who is among the first to explore or settle an area.

Materials

This lesson includes:

- Job Carr Narrative
- Timeline of Dates
- Storyboard

Extension activities:

How to Draw Job Carr

You will need:

- A pen
- A highlighter
- Color pencils, markers, or crayons

Background Information

Job Carr was the first permanent non-native settler of what is now Tacoma. Job was the first person to envision a great city on the shores of Commencement Bay. He served as Tacoma's first postmaster and first mayor.

Before Job came to Puget Sound, he lived on the other side of the North American continent. Find out more about Job's life before he decided to become a pioneer and travel west on the Oregon Trail.

A *narrative* or story is an account of a series of related events, experiences, or the like, whether true or fictitious

Using the Narrative and Timeline

Take a look at the Job Carr Narrative. A narrative is a story or account of a series of events. This narrative tells us about Job Carr's life before he travelled the Oregon Trail. Read through the narrative.

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Now that you've read the document, your next task is to complete a close reading of the text to identify the important things from Job's early life. Use your highlighter to identify key dates and events.

• Can you find an important event in Job's life? Where did you see this in the narrative?

Next, look at the Timeline of Dates. This provides you with a set of key dates in Job Carr's early life. Can you fill in the timeline with the important events that you highlighted in the narrative?

Let's practice with the first event in the timeline.

- The timeline date is July 2, 1813.
- Did you find a piece of important information about this date in Paragraph 1, Line 3. It says that Job Carr was born in New Jersey on July 2, 1813.
- Can you write this key date in your timeline?

Now that you've found out the first event in the timeline, continue to write in the events of Job Carr's early life.

- Did you find all of the key events in the narrative and write them on your timeline?
- Which 6 events do you think are most important? Can you mark them on your timeline with a star?

Using the Storyboard Activity

Use the information that you wrote on your timeline to create an illustrated storyboard about Job Carr's early life.

In the first box of the storyboard, write a title and the artist's (your) name.

In the next six boxes of the storyboard, you will share the 6 most important events in order from your timeline. Each box should include a picture of one event and a short caption or written description. Put the events in chronological order. Draw the event which happened first on your timeline in the first box of the storyboard. The event that happened last goes in the last box of the storyboard.

The last box of the storyboard is for an "About the Author" paragraph. Share 2-3 sentences about yourself.

- What are some key facts about yourself? Do you have any brothers or sisters? Do you have any pets? What is your favorite color or favorite food?
- What is an important event in your life? What year were you born? What city do you live in now?

Finally, you can use the Storyboard Self-Evaluation Tool to check your work.

For a bonus activity, try How to Draw Job Carr.

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Want to Learn More:

What was happening in Puget Sound before Job Carr travelled west? Here is a timeline of key events.

Date	Event	
Since Time Immemorial	The Puyallup Tribe of Indians have lived along the shores of the Puget Sound, near the Puyallup River, and in the foothills of Mt. Tacoma (Rainier) for thousands of years.	
1792	British Captain George Vancouver explores the Pacific, naming Puget Sound and Mt Rainier.	
1833	The Hudson's Bay Company establishes the first non-Native settlement on Puget Sound. It was located in the city that we now call DuPont.	
1841	U.S. Lieutenant Charles Wilkes explores the west coast of North America, naming Commencement Bay.	
1845	The Simmons and Bush families are the first American settlers in Puget Sound. They build homes in the area that we now call Tumwater.	
1850	Edmund Sylvester dedicates the town of Olympia.	
1851	Captain Lafayette Balch establishes the town of Steilacoom, building a store, hotel and wharf.	
	The Denny family arrives on Puget Sound and soon starts the city of Seattle.	
April 1852	Nicolas Delin builds a water-powered sawmill at the head of Commencement Bay, near the location of today's Tacoma Dome.	
March 1853	President Franklin Pierce appoints Isaac Stevens as the first governor of Washington Territory.	
October 1853	The Longmire party crosses the Oregon Trail with the Judson family. Peter Judson stakes a land claim on Commencement Bay (on land we now call Downtown Tacoma) and begins farming oats and wheat.	
November 1853	Governor Isaac Stevens selects Olympia as the capitol city of Washington Territory.	
December 1854	Governor Isaac Stevens pushes Western Washington Tribes, including the Puyallup people, to sign the Treaty of Medicine Creek. The treaty creates three small reservations for all of the tribes to share.	
Fall 1855	Dissatisfied with the Medicine Creek Treaty, Native Americans refuse to move to the reservations and attack settlers in the Puget Sound region. Nicholas Delin and the Judson family abandon their houses on Commencement Bay.	
1856	The Treaty Wars end with renegotiation of the Medicine Creek Treaty. The Puyallup Reservation is assigned 18,062 acres, but much of the land is later taken away from the tribe. The treaty also preserves the Puyallup tribe's permanent right to hunt and fish in their traditional areas.	

www.jobcarrmuseum.org

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Learn more about Puyallup culture and history, http://www.native-languages.org/puyallup.htm

Try saying some phrases in Lushootseed, the traditional language of the Puyallup people, http://www.puyalluptriballanguage.org/

Understand how the Treaty of Medicine Creek is still important today, https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/standing-rock-there-was-medicine-creek-180963623/

Find out more about the history of Fort Nisqually, https://www.metroparkstacoma.org/place/fort-nisqually-living-history-museum/

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Job Carr Narrative

My name is Job Carr. I was born in New Jersey on July 2, 1813. My mom's name was Ruth and my dad's name was also Job. When I was 12 years old (in 1825), my family decided to move to Ohio. We loved adventure and seemed to move a lot when I was young. In fact, we soon moved back to New Jersey, and then eventually we settled in Indiana. That was a lot of moving when I was young!

Well, in January 1840, when I was 26 years old, I married a woman named Rebecca Pittman. Between the years of 1841 and 1850, we had 4 children. Their names were: Anthony, Howard, Marietta and Margaret. We decided to stay in Indiana and raise our children there.

Our family religion as Quakers taught us to practice peace, but soon the Civil War began! We believed that slavery was wrong and must be stopped. When I was 47 years old, in 1860, I decided to fight in the war to help the Union Army; they were the side that fought against slavery and wanted it to end. I fought for 3 years and served in the 36th Indiana Infantry Regiment. I was wounded two times before I went back home! My two sons also joined the Union Army and my wife helped as a nurse.

Once I left the army, I wanted to move to Council Bluffs, Iowa to start an orchard nursery, but my wife Rebecca decided to stay in Indiana with our two daughters. We agreed to divorce.

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On July 2, 1864, my 51st birthday, President Abraham Lincoln signed a bill so that a railroad track would be constructed from Lake Superior to Puget Sound. "Wow!" I thought. This sounds like an opportunity for me to begin an adventure again! So, I sold my nursery in Iowa and traveled west on the Oregon Trail with a team of oxen and everything I owned packed into a covered wagon. I was determined to find land and start a city at the place where the railroad would end!

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Timeline of Dates

Date	Event
July 2, 1813	
1825	
January 1840	
1841 – 1850	
1860 – 1863	
1863	
July 2, 1864	
Aug. – Nov. 1864	

The Early Life of Job Carr Retold By:		
		About the Author:

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The Early Life of Job Carr Storyboard Self-Evaluation Tool

Name:	Date:

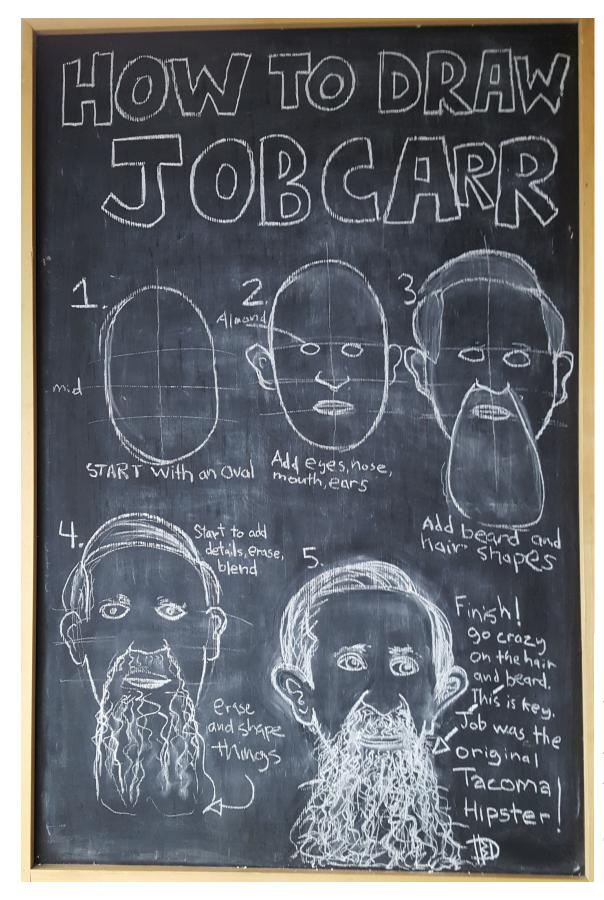
	Student Score	*Optional Teacher / Parent Score
I neatly wrote my name in the first box of the storyboard.	1 2 3 4	
I chose six different events from my timeline of dates to include in the storyboard.	1 2 3 4	
I drew and colored a picture for each event in the storyboard.	1 2 3 4	
I wrote a caption or sentence below the drawing for each event in the storyboard.	1 2 3 4	
All events I used are in chronological order. (happened first → happened last)	1 2 3 4	
I wrote a 2-3 sentence "About the Author" paragraph in the last box of the storyboard.	1 2 3 4	
TOTAL SCORE	_	_
POSSIBLE SCORE	24	24

1 = It's a start.

2 - Pretty good.

3 = Thumbs up. You're so close.

4 = Fabulous. You got it!



Art by Benjamin Davis

