

Topic from 8th grade NC History

The issues of southern slavery and factory workers in the industrialized north.

Essential questions for the topic...

What were the standard living and working conditions of slaves in the antebellum south?

What were the standard living and working conditions of factory workers in the industrialized north in the 1850's?

Using higher order thinking skills to complete the assignment...

In large group setting...

-Create on butcher paper a chart of prior knowledge for: daily life of a slave

-Create on butcher paper a chart of prior knowledge for: daily life of a factory worker

Individual work...

- Read teacher-provided documents on the "life of a slave" and excerpts from Upton Sinclair's book *The Jungle*.

In small group setting...

- Using a Venn diagram, compare and contrast the living and working conditions of these two groups.

- Judge the profit motives of the southern plantation owner in comparison to that of the robber barons of the industrialized north when taking cost of production into account. Write a one-paragraph summary of your judgment.
- Illustrate the social status of each group on white paper. You may use graphs, cartoons, symbols, or pictures.
- Give examples of how each group viewed its future socially, economically and educationally. Create a graphic organizer to show your examples.

Large group setting seminar approach...

- Using your group products, how were the lives of the southern slaves and the factory workers similar?
- How did the lives of these two groups differ?
- What were the long-range expectations of these two groups? How did they compare and how did they differ?
- Who typically would have been employed as factory workers during the 1850's?
- Draw a conclusion as to the value placed by society on these two groups.
- On butcher paper charts, list new knowledge and understanding of the two groups.

Responses will vary based on the group products and comprehension level of the participants.

Students may recognize that both groups had little impact on the political parties and that both were considered lower class. Most factory workers were immigrants, unskilled laborers, and those who lacked an education.