



LESSON PLAN

WEST VIRGINIA MINE WARS MUSEUM

wvminewars.org

401 Mate Street Matewan, West Virginia 25678

Lesson 8: The Redneck Army Challenge

Objectives:

- What does it mean to be a redneck? In this wrap up activity, the students will develop and execute a community service project in the school or community.

Materials Needed:

- Creative minds and teamwork
- Red bandanas (optional)

Activity 1: Warm Up

Facilitate a discussion of what students learned in this unit. Be sure to get them to focus not just on facts and stories, but what lessons students can learn about their own lives or about being citizens? Make sure and try and draw out ideas of diversity and inclusion as well as overcoming difference and powerful injustices.

Activity 2: Creating a Community Service Project

Have them brainstorm ideas for what activity they would like to do. However, make sure and remind them that it needs to address questions of inclusion and overcoming difference, making sure no one is left behind. How can the stories of the Mine Wars inform their project? This will probably take more than one class period, because planning the project and getting permission from administrators and involving others. However, use this day to at least get a general outline of the project and what roles individual students will play in the project.

On the day (or days) students are doing the community service project, be sure and take pictures and send them to us so we can upload them onto our website at www.wvminewars.com and allow students from across the state to see what other students who learned about Mine Wars history are doing to make their home a better place. If students take photos wearing red bandanas while doing it, we would especially love to have your pictures!

While the possibilities of service projects are endless, they do not need to be huge, or even take place immediately, and could be done later in the school year. It is more important how students carry out the project (focusing on inclusion and working together) than the what of the project (although that is great too!)

Possible projects might include a can drive for a food pantry, starting a school recycling program, a winter glove and hat drive, a school beautification project such as a litter cleanup, painting, or flower planting. Try and encourage students to think beyond just projects that cost money, what about starting an anti-bullying project, or a tutoring mentorship project where students in higher grades tutor younger students in math.

For more resources on the origin of redneck, please visit our website at www.wvminewars.com