DO HARD TIME

WELCOME!

Welcome to the former West Virginia State Penitentiary, located in Moundsville, WV. We invited to use this guide to encourage, engage and create enthusiasm in planning your visit to the facility.

> Teaching Plan Multi-grade, classroom adaptable plan

West Virginia State Penitentiary

Moundsville, WV

"Where History Meets Mystery"

Grade Level: This plan was written for a middle school audience; however, the information and activities can be modified to fit any grade level. Also, activities may be completed or omitted as the teacher deems necessary.

Length: Varies dependent upon the activities the teacher chooses to complete

I. Objectives (by state):

A. West Virginia (Social Studies):

SS.8.23 Demonstrate an understanding of major social, political and economic developments that took place in West Virginia during the second half of the nineteenth century.

SS.8.24 Demonstrate an understanding of West Virginia's development during the early twentieth century.

SS.8.25 Demonstrate an understanding of West Virginia's development during the midtwentieth century.

SS.8.26 Demonstrate an understanding of West Virginia in the modern era.

B. West Virginia (English Language Arts):

ELA.8.15 Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums (e.g., print or digital text, video, and/or multimedia) to present a particular topic or idea.

ELA.8.23 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

ELA.8.25 Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing, present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently, and interact and collaborate with others.

ELA.8.26 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.

ELA.8.27 Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation (e.g., MLA or APA).

ELA.8.30 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 8 topics, texts, and issues,* building on others' ideas and expressing ideas clearly.

C. Ohio (Social Studies):

16. Cultural biases, stereotypes and prejudices had social, political and economic consequences for minority groups and the population as a whole.

22. Choices made by individuals, businesses and governments have both present and future consequences.

D. Ohio (Reading/Language Arts-Writing):

3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently as well as to interact and collaborate with others.

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. Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

E. Ohio (Reading/Language Arts- Speaking and Listening):

1. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 8 topics, texts, and issues,* building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

F. Pennsylvania (Writing in History and Social Studies):

CC.8.6.6-8.B Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/ experiments, or technical processes.

CC.8.6.6-8.C Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

CC.8.6.6-8.E Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas clearly and efficiently.

CC.8.6.6-8.F 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.

CC.8.6.6-8.G Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

G. Pennsylvania (English Language Arts):

CC.1.4.8.B Identify and introduce the topic clearly, including a preview of what is to follow.

CC.1.4.8.C Develop and analyze the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples; include graphics and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.

CC.1.4.8.E Write with an awareness of the stylistic aspects of composition.

CC.1.4.8.F Demonstrate a grade-appropriate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.

CC.1.4.8.0 Use narrative techniques such as dialogue, description, reflection, and pacing to develop experiences, events, and/or characters; use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events.

CC.1.5.8.A Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions, on grade-level topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

II. Preparation

A. Purpose: The purpose of this lesson is to introduce and give students information about the history, impact and daily operations of the WV State Penitentiary in Moundsville, WV both past (as a prison) and present (as a tourist attraction) in preparation for a future tour of the facility. Also, this lesson plan is designed to allow students to discuss the knowledge gained before and during their tour with peers as well as have students apply this knowledge to complete various activities.

B. Materials: The majority of the materials needed to complete the activities contained in this lesson plan are included. The additional materials not included with this lesson plan are normal supplies found in most classrooms/schools, such as devices with internet access, whiteboards,

paper, pencils, rulers, etc. The specific additional materials will be dependent upon how the educator implements the plan and which activities he/she chooses to complete.

III. Procedure

A. Anticipatory Set: Show students the pictures at the following links (these pictures are also included in Appendix 1):

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/2d/West_Virginia_State_Penitentiary.jpg

http://www.dreadcentral.com/img/coldspots/cswestvirginiapenn.jpg

-If the students are unfamiliar with the building and its past and present uses, discuss the possible uses of the building then explain that this was the WV State Penitentiary from 1866-1995 and currently houses a variety of tourist attractions.

-If the students are familiar with the building and its past and/or present uses, discuss the different feelings evoked by each picture.

-A discussion of Gothic architecture could also be incorporated at this time. Information about the characteristics of Gothic architecture can be found at http://www.exploring-castles.com/characteristics_of_gothic_architecture.html. The Gothic architecture of the WV State Penitentiary was modeled after a castle-like prison in Joliet, IL.

B. Procedures (Before visit):

1. Vocabulary-Appendix 2 contains common vocabulary words that students can expect to hear during their tour of the penitentiary. These words can be discussed with a whole class or the cards can be matched or used to play Memory. Younger students will probably benefit most from these activities as their vocabularies may not be as extensive as older students.

2. KWL Chart-As a whole class, small groups, partners or individually, complete the first two columns of the KWL chart in Appendix 3.

-If the students are already somewhat familiar with the WV State Penitentiary, this activity can focus specifically on it; however, if students are unfamiliar with this specific penitentiary, this activity can focus on penitentiaries/prisons in general.

3. Timeline-Appendix 4 contains important events in the history of the WV State Penitentiary. There is a date bank, event strips and an answer key. The students may cut and paste the strips in order with dates onto another paper, rewrite the information on a timeline of their own design or record the dates on the given paper. Timelines may be completed as a whole class, in small groups, with a partner or individually and the teacher may decide whether or not to provide the students with the date bank. Also, the teacher may choose to omit events as he/she deems necessary.

4. Well-known People Questions-Appendix 5 contains questions about well-known people who have been associated with the WV State Penitentiary over the years both past and present. These questions can be used as a scavenger hunt-type activity with individuals, partners or groups or as the guideline for a whole class discussion.

5. PowerPoint- The information contained in this PowerPoint expands on information from the timeline and questions in #3 and #4. It can be shown to the whole class on a whiteboard or printed and given to individuals/groups. Although listed as a before tour activity, the Well-Known Areas, Prison Life and Movies and TV Shows sections can be reserved and shown after your tour to review information presented during the tour. If you choose to use those parts of the PowerPoint after your tour, it is recommended that you still review the Current Information and Happenings slides before your visit especially the part regarding pictures (which we highly encourage).

C. Procedures (After visit):

1. KWL Chart-After your visit, revisit the KWL chart that was started before your tour. Complete the third column of the chart in the same groupings that the first two columns were completed. If the chart was completed in groups, pairs or individually, students can be asked to share one or two of their listed topics with the whole group.

2. Critical Thinking Activity-The open ended questions in Appendix 6 can be used in a variety of ways, such as a whole group discussion, a small group discussion, individual responses (oral or written) or a Think-Pair-Share activitiy.

3. Writing Activity- Various writing activities can be assigned after your tour of the penitentiary. Some examples include:

a. A paragraph, poem, essay, etc. addressing what a student learned or how they felt during the tour.

b. A journal (the number of entries may be determined by the teacher) written from the perspective of any person associated with the penitentiary (an inmate, the warden, a corrections officer, a visitor, a person who lived nearby, etc). An additional component of this activity could be that the journal entries are to be written during a specific part of the prison's history (during the first phase of construction while living in the North Wagon Gate, during a riot, during the time authorities were searching for escaped inmates, etc.).

c. A biography of a warden or one of the governors mentioned in the prison's history.

d. A newspaper article detailing some event in the prison's history (completion of one of the phases, a riot, an escape, an award, the opening of an attraction, etc.).

4. Math Activity-Some of the math topics that can be addressed by using the map and the included facts in Appendix 7 include area, perimeter, conversions, scale factor and inflation. An example of each of these is:

a. Area and Perimeter- For younger students, a "cell" (with grid lines) could be taped off on the floor for a visual representation of how area and perimeter are measured before introducing the formulas. For older students, see the scale factor example.

b. Conversions- Any of the measurements in Appendix 7 can be used with younger students to convert between feet and inches and vice versa. For older students, converting from standard measurement to the metric system could be addressed.

Also, the concept of acres (and how to convert them to feet, miles, etc.) could be explored at this time.

c. Scale Factor- Students can use the scale factor of the included map to the actual prison yard (682 ft x 352 feet) to determine the measurements, area and perimeter of other buildings marked on the map.

d. Inflation- The cost of the original tract of land as well as the first phase of construction can be examined to see how much would have to be spent on those parts of the penitentiary if it were being built in the present day.

5. Creative Application Activity-Some suggestions are:

a. A replication drawing, model, etc. of either the front on the prison (Gothic architecture), an area of the penitentiary or one of the inmate created works of art seen during the tour.

b. A drawing, model, etc. of a student-designed building with Gothic architecture.

c. A collage of pictures or words that the student associates with their study and tour of the prison.

d. A student-created skit or radio/TV show about a day/hour of life in the penitentiary or some event in the prison's history.

e. An ad (in any medium) for one of the current attractions at the former penitentiary.

D. Closure:

1. Class Presentation-Students may present to their peers one of the activities they completed after the tour. The particular activity may be chosen by the teacher or the student.

2. Jeopardy- Play the Jeopardy game located at <u>jeopardylabs.com/play/wv-state-penitentiary</u> in pairs, groups, etc.

IV. Sources:

http://weelunk.com/fascinating-history-wv-pen-7864/

http://www.hauntedhouses.com/states/wv/west_virginia_penitentiary.htm

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/West_Virginia_State_Penitentiary

http://www.roadsideamerica.com/story/10871

http://www.wvpentours.com/

http://www.wvpentours.com/

V. Appendix:

- 1. Pictures for Introduction
- 2. Vocabulary Cards
- 3. KWL Chart
- 4. Timeline Date Bank, Events and Answer Key
- 5. Important People Word Bank, Questions and Answer Key
- 6. Critical Thinking Questions
- 7. Numbers and Map for Math activities





Capital Punishment	Infirmary
Cell	Inmate
Cell Block	Lock Down
Corrections Officer	Riot
Electric Chair	Solitary Confinement
Electrocution	Visitation
Execution	Wagon Gate
Guard	Warden

The person in charge of a prison	The holding of an inmate in a cell or other place with no human contact
A guard in a prison	A small room in a prison
A machine used to electrocute inmates given a verdict of capital punishment	An opening in a wall big enough for wagons to pass through
Hospital or a place serving as a hospital	Part of a prison that contains many cells
Death penalty given for a crime	A person who keeps watch over prisoners
To kill a person who has been given a verdict of capital punishment	Scheduled visits with an inmate
A person who is held in a prison after committing a crime	A noisy, violent public disturbance caused by a group of people
Execution by electricity	Keeping prisoners in their cells

Ap	pen	dix	3
			-

What I KNOW	What I WANT to know	What I LEARNED

Dates to be used on your timeline.

6/20/1863	1929	1971	Early 1990s
1863-1866	1929-1959	3/20/1973	2/20/1992
1865	1951-1959	11/1979	3/27/1995
2/7/1866	1955	1983	1996
1866-1876	1959	1/20/1986	1998-1999
1876	1960s	4/1988	2000
1899	1965	11/1988	2013
1899-1949			

The WV State Legislature purchases a plot of land in Moundsville, WV for \$3000. Moundsville is chosen because of its proximity to the then State Capitol in Wheeling, WV.

85 inmates are executed by hanging. These hangings did not take place in the North Wagon Gate.

"The Avengers" (a group of prisoners) hold 12 people (11 corrections officers and one food service personnel) hostage in the southern section of the penitentiary during a riot. The inmates want better living conditions, facilities and medical services. The riot ends when Governor Arch Moore promises to build a new cafeteria.

Nine men are executed via electrocution in "Old Sparky".

Portions of "Out of the Furnace," starring Christian Bale, Woody Harrelson, Zoe Saldana, Forest Whitaker and Willem DaFoe, are filmed at the prison.

Three inmates escape in broad daylight by using a 32 foot tunnel they had dug on the east side of the complex under an unmanned guard tower.

"The Night of the Hunter" is filmed at the penitentiary. The cast included Robert Mitchum, Shelley Winters and Peter Graves.

The first execution takes place at the penitentiary when the state takes over responsibility from the counties.

The population of the penitentiary reaches well over 1,000 (near 2,000) several times.

15 inmates escape from the penitentiary. Ronald Turney Williams is the last to be caught in New York City 18 months later.

WV becomes a state.

Cecil Underwood (now the oldest governor in WV) appropriates \$500,000 to build the corrections/training center on the penitentiary property.

Five prison guards are held hostage during a riot. The prisoners barricade themselves in the maximum security section of the penitentiary.

The press begins to push for a state prison after nine inmates escape from a county jail in WV.

"Fear," an MTV show about paranormal occurences, films an episode at the penitentiary. The show becomes an instant success and leads to the MEDC offering Paranormal Events tourist activities at the facility.

WV abolishes capital punishment.

"Fool's Parade," a film by Columbia Pictures directed by Andrew V. McLaglen and starring James Stewart, George Kennedy and Anne Baxter is filmed at the penitentiary.

The Moundsville Economic Development Council (MEDC) takes over the operations of the penitentiary.

Three prisoners escape by using the elevator shafts to get around inside the building then using pipe and cable to lower themselves from a 2nd story window. They are recaptured quickly.

WV Governor Arthur I. Boreman lobbies for a prison in WV

The penitentiary is closed by a court order on the basis that the cells are too small and the living conditions are inhumane.

Two inmates escape. Few details of this escape are available, but the pair is captured quickly.

Charles Manson writes a letter asking to be transferred to the WV State Penitentiary. His request is denied.

A massive project to double the size of the prison is undertaken. This construction is delayed by a steel shortage during World War II.

The facility is completed during Governor Cecil Underwood's first term. Underwood is the youngest governor WV has had.

Penitentiary opens with 251 male inmates.

Inmates help to build the first phase of the prison around the North Wagon Gate. This phase includes the north and south cellblock areas, an administration building and a home for the warden and his family.

The penitentiary is a self-sustaining entity which has carpentry, paint and wagon shops, a brickyard, a coal mine (located one mile away), a blacksmith, a bakery and a hospital.

WV lawmakers approve an expansion of the prison due to issues with overcrowding.

Answer Key

6/20/1863	WV becomes a state.
1863-1866	WV Governor Arthur I. Boreman lobbies for a prison in WV
1865	The press begins to push for a state prison after nine inmates escape from a county jail in WV.
2/7/1866	The WV State Legislature purchases a plot of land in Moundsville, WV for \$3000. Moundsville is chosen because of its proximity to the then State Capitol in Wheeling, WV.
1866-1876	Inmates help to build the first phase of the prison around the North Wagon Gate. This phase includes the north and south cellblock areas, an administration building and a home for the warden and his family.
1876	Penitentiary opens with 251 male inmates.
1899	The first execution takes place at the penitentiary when the state takes over responsibility from the counties.
1899-1949	85 inmates are executed by hanging. These hangings did not take place in the North Wagon Gate.
1929	WV lawmakers approve an expansion of the prison due to issues with overcrowding.
1929-1959	A massive project to double the size of the prison is undertaken. This construction is delayed by a steel shortage during World War II.
1951-1959	Nine men are executed via electrocution in "Old Sparky".
1955	"The Night of the Hunter" is filmed at the penitentiary. The cast included Robert Mitchum, Shelley Winters and Peter Graves.
1959	The facility is completed during Governor Cecil Underwood's first term. Underwood is the youngest governor WV has had.
1960s	The population of the penitentiary reaches well over 1,000 (near 2,000) several times.
1965	WV abolishes capital punishment.
1971	"Fool's Parade," a film by Columbia Pictures directed by Andrew V. McLaglen and starring James Stewart, George Kennedy and Anne Baxter is filmed at the penitentiary.
3/20/1973	Five prison guards are held hostage during a riot. The prisoners barricade themselves in the maximum security section of the penitentiary.

- 11/1979 15 inmates escape from the penitentiary. Ronald Turney Williams is the last to be caught in New York City 18 months later.
- 1983 Charles Manson writes a letter asking to be transferred to the WV State Penitentiary. His request is denied.
- 1/20/1986 "The Avengers" (a group of prisoners) hold 12 people (11 corrections officers and one food service personnel) hostage in the southern section of the penitentiary during a riot. The inmates want better living conditions, facilities and medical services. The riot ends when Governor Arch Moore promises to build a new cafeteria.
- 4/1988 Three prisoners escape by using the elevator shafts to get around inside the building then using pipe and cable to lower themselves from a 2nd story window. They are recaptured quickly.
- 11/1988 Two inmates escape. Few details of this escape are available, but the pair is captured quickly.
- Early 1990s The penitentiary is a self-sustaining entity which has carpentry, paint and wagon shops, a brickyard, a coal mine (located one mile away), a blacksmith, a bakery and a hospital.
- 2/20/1992 Three inmates escape in broad daylight by using a 32 foot tunnel they had dug on the east side of the complex under an unmanned guard tower.
- 3/27/1995 The penitentiary is closed by a court order on the basis that the cells are too small and the living conditions are inhumane.
- 1996 The Moundsville Economic Development Council (MEDC) takes over the operations of the penitentiary.
- 1998-1999 Cecil Underwood (now the oldest governor in WV) appropriates \$500,000 to build the corrections/training center on the penitentiary property.
- 2000 "Fear," an MTV show about paranormal occurences , films an episode at the penitentiary. The show becomes an instant success and leads to the MEDC offering Paranormal Events tourist activities at the facility.
- 2013 Portions of "Out of the Furnace," starring Christian Bale, Woody Harrelson, Zoe Saldana, Forest Whitaker and Willem DaFoe, are filmed at the prison.

Arthur I. Boreman	Frederick Hamilton	Robert Mitchum
Arch Moore	Jerry Hedrick	Ronald Turney Williams
Cecil Underwood	Jimmy Stewart	Suzanne Park Lewis
Charles E. Haddox	Paul Glenn	Tommy Mollohan
Frank Hyer	Paul Kirby	William O. Wallace
1	_ I was the governor of WV who lob	bied for a state prison.
2 both 1988 and 1992.	_ I was the inmate that escaped fro	m the WV State Penitentiary in
3 escaped the first time.	_ I was the warden of the penitentiary	when the inmate in question two
4	_ I was the Deputy Warden of the peni	tentiary when it closed in 1995.
5 prison where I starred in the m	I was born in Indiana, PA, which is ap ovie "Fool's Parade".	proximately three hours from the
6 WV and negotiate with rioting	_ I was the governor of WV who had to inmates.	e leave Florida in 1986 to return to
7 and oversee all penitentiary op	_ I am the current head of the Mounds erations.	ville Economic Development Council
	When I was the youngest governor ir dest governor of WV, I appropriated \$50 the penitentiary property.	
9 Oklahoma before being capture	_ I escaped from the WV State Penitenti ed.	ary in 1992 and made my way to
10	_ I was the inmate at the penitentiary t	that originally built "Old Sparky".
11 the WV State Penitentiary were	_ After my accidental decapitation durir e no longer opened to the public.	ng my hanging in 1931, hangings at
	_ During my time as warden, I expressed anging) as a means of capital punishmer	
13 Penitentiary.	I starred in "The Night of the Hunter"	which was filmed at the WV State
14 recaptured until 18 months late	_ I escaped from the penitentiary in Nover in New York City.	vember, 1979 and was not
15	I was the warden of the penitentiary d	luring the 1973 riot.

Answer Key

1. Arthur I. Boreman- I was the governor of WV who lobbied for a state prison.

2. **Tommy Mollohan-** I was the inmate that escaped from the WV State Penitentiary in both 1988 and 1992.

3. Jerry Hedrick- I was the warden of the penitentiary when the inmate in question two escaped the first time.

4. Paul Kirby- I was the Deputy Warden of the penitentiary when it closed in 1995.

5. **Jimmy Stewart-** I was born in Indiana, PA, which is approximately three hours from the prison where I starred in the movie "Fool's Parade".

6. **Arch Moore-** I was the governor of WV who had to leave Florida in 1986 to return to WV and negotiate with rioting inmates.

7. **Suzanne Park Lewis-** I am the current head of the Moundsville Economic Development Council and oversee all penitentiary operations.

8. **Cecil Underwood-** When I was the youngest governor in WV, the penitentiary was completed. When I was the oldest governor of WV, I appropriated \$500,000 to build the corrections/training center on the penitentiary property.

9. Frederick Hamilton- I escaped from the WV State Penitentiary in 1992 and made my way to Oklahoma before being captured.

10. Paul Glenn- I was the inmate at the penitentiary that originally built "Old Sparky".

11. **Frank Hyer-** After my accidental decapitation during my hanging in 1931, hangings at the WV State Penitentiary were no longer opened to the public.

12. **Charles E. Haddox-** During my time as warden, I expressed my displeasure of using electrocution (as opposed to hanging) as a means of capital punishment to the WV House of Delegates.

13. Robert Mitchum- I starred in "The Night of the Hunter" which was filmed at the WV State Penitentiary.

14. **Ronald Turney Williams-** I escaped from the penitentiary in November, 1979 and was not recaptured until 18 months later in New York City.

15. William O. Wallace- I was the warden of the penitentiary during the 1973 riot.

- 1. What was your favorite/least favorite part of the tour?
- 2. What were the benefits and weaknesses of inmates having jobs in the penitentiary?

3. What characteristics would a person need to have to be a corrections officer in a facility like the former penitentiary?

4. How did you feel when you walked into the North Hall/North Walk and saw all of the chain link fencing?

5. How would you have felt if you had had to live in the North Wagon Gate with 149 other people during the first phase of construction until the penitentiary officially opened?

6. If you had come to visit an inmate and had never seen the outside of the building, how would you have felt upon pulling up in front of it?

7. Would you be willing to do an overnight tour in places like the Sugar Shack, Psych Ward, etc.?

8. Do you think wardens enjoyed sending inmates to the "Hole"?

9. Did Governor Arch Moore do the right thing when he promised the rioting inmates a new cafeteria in 1986? Why or why not?

10. How would you have felt had you toured the penitentiary while it still housed inmates?

11. Why do you think some inmates were compelled to try to escape?

12. What other types of events/attractions could be added at the penitentiary in order to preserve its existence?

The WV State Penitentiary by the Numbers

*The original 10 acres was purchased for \$3,000.

*The first phase of construction cost \$363,061.

*The prison yard measures 682 feet long and 352 feet wide.

* The foundation of the outside wall is 24 ft high with 5 more feet below the surface.

*At the base, the outside wall is 6 ft wide then tapers to 18 inches at the top.

*Cells measured 5 feet by 7 feet.

*The tunnel dug and used in the 1992 escape went 8 feet down then 32 feet across and, finally, 16 feet up to Washington Ave.

