

About This Lesson

This lesson is based on the New York State Historical Association's Empire State Carousel files and other source materials. *The Empire State Carousel as New York State History* was written by Mary Aimonovitch, Kira DeLanoy, Ashley Hopkins, Carolyn Lane, Stephanie Lehner, Brian Richards, Allan Rowe, and Kimberly Springle, students at the Cooperstown Graduate Program, and was supervised by John Buchinger, Associate Director of Education at the New York State Historical Association. This lesson was designed to bring the important story of the Empire State Carousel into classrooms across the country.

Where it fits into the curriculum:

Topics: This lesson could be used in United States history courses to satisfy New York State Standard 1: History of the United States and New York. It could also be used in Art courses to satisfy units on stories and symbols in art, as well as folk art courses.

Time period: Late twentieth century.

Relevant New York State Standards:

Art Standards:

- 1: Creating, performing and participating in the Arts
- 2: Knowing and using Arts materials and resources
- 3: Responding to and analyzing works of art
- 4: Understanding the cultural dimensions and contributions of the Arts

English Language Standards

- 1: Language for Information and Understanding
- 3: Language for Critical Analysis and Evaluation

Mathematics, Science, and Technology

- 4: Science
6. Interconnectedness: Common themes

Social Studies Standards: *History of the United States and New York:*

1: The study of New York State and United States history requires an analysis of the development of American culture, its diversity and multicultural context, and the ways people are unified by many values, practices, and traditions

2: Important ideas, social and cultural values, beliefs and traditions from New York State and United States history illustrate the connections and interactions of people and events across time and from a variety of perspectives

3: Study about the major social, political, economic, cultural, and religious developments in New York State and United States history involves learning about the important roles and contributions of individuals and groups

Objectives for Students:

- Students will be able to observe and critique the Empire State Carousel as a piece of artwork and understand the stories it is depicting. They will be able to answer in a complete manner all questions and engage in all activities in this part of the lesson.
- Students will have knowledge of the great contributions of New Yorkers to society. They will be able to answer in a complete manner all questions and engage in all activities in this part of the lesson.
- Students will be able to identify key places in New York State and the role those places played in New York State history. They will be able to answer in a complete manner all questions and engage in all activities in this part of the lesson.
- Students will be able to identify and explain the parts of the Empire State Carousel and why they were used to represent New York State. They will be able to answer in a complete manner all questions and engage in all activities in this part of the lesson.

- The students will be able to create their own artistic representation of New York State using symbols of important people, places, and things. Students will be graded based on the provided rubric.

Materials for students

The materials listed below can be used directly on the computer or printed, photocopied, and distributed to students. The maps and images appear twice: in a low-resolution version with associated questions and alone in a larger, high-quality version.

- One vocabulary lesson with activity sheets.
- One New York State History Timeline Activity
- Three maps showing the geography of the area, with accompanying activities.
- Three readings compiled from primary and secondary sources, with accompanying activities.
- Five images in the Visual Evidence section, with worksheets.
- Seven images of folk-life panels for use with Map 1: Find the Folks.

Visiting the site

The Empire State Carousel is located at the Farmers' Museum in Cooperstown, New York on State Route 80.

For more information contact:

The Farmers' Museum
P.O. Box 30
Cooperstown, NY 13326

Phone: (607) 547-1450; Toll Free: (888) 547-1450

Website: <http://www.farmersmuseum.org>

Please call ahead before planning your visit.