



Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence Lesson Plan

Name: _____
Subject: _____

Date: _____
Period: _____

<u>Objectives:</u>	The students will look closely at the similarities and differences between the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence of May 1775, and the more prominent national document that was signed in July of 1776. The students will compare similar language/statements found in both documents and draw distinctions between the two where they are different.
<u>Warm-Up:</u>	Quiz the students (5-10 short-answer questions) on the national document of 1776, the founding fathers, and local history.
<u>Introduction:</u> (Teacher Input)	The teacher will introduce the lesson by spending some time focusing on our national heritage as it pertains to the document of 1776, paying careful attention to the signers and the intentions of the founders. Once students have participated in this portion of the lesson, the teacher will then introduce the students to the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence of 1775, complete with a photocopy of the "MecDec," and then read it aloud to/with the class.
<u>Guided Practice:</u>	The teacher will engage the students in an open discussion, asking the students to contribute their thoughts about the "MecDec." The teacher will also ask the students if they recognize any of the last names associated with the "MecDec" from around our city (streets, etc.).
<u>Independent Practice:</u>	The students will make two columns on a sheet of paper, listing similar language, wording, or statements found in both documents. If time permits, they may also make a list of those things that they feel are different between the two. (This may also be done in groups)
<u>Closure:</u>	Returning to a class discussion, students will share their thoughts and ideas with their classmates. The teacher may also ask the students to discuss the differences between the need for such a document in a small community as opposed to a set of 13 diverse colonies.

Essential Question: (Up to the individual teacher)

NCSCOS Addressed In Lesson: (May vary)

Materials Needed For Lesson: Textbook with U.S. Declaration of Independence, photocopies of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, paper, pens/pencils/highlighters.