

Mama and Me and the Model T
by
Faye Gibbons

Teacher: Susan Corcoran, Glenwood School, Smiths, Alabama

Grade Level: 2nd Grade

Content Areas: Reading and Social Studies

Description: During this lesson the teacher will read aloud Faye Gibbons' *Mama and Me and the Model T* and then discuss with the students how automobiles have changed over time.

Timeline: 1 hour (extension activities will require more time)

Goals:

The students will be able to compare features of modern-day living to those in the past. Students will identify how the automobile has changed and the impact it has made on modern living.

Links to Curriculum Standards:

Alabama Course of Study Language Arts Objectives:

2.1 Students will understand the concepts of a story

- Relating personal experiences to text.
- Identifying with characters or events in a story.
- Recognizing elements in a story.

2.4 Read materials across the curriculum by applying appropriate strategies...

- Creating mental pictures
- Responding to comprehension questions.

2.11 Associate knowledge learning in the language arts program to life situations.

2.16 Use appropriate sources for obtaining information.

2.20 Use descriptive and narrative writing to clarify thinking in all disciplines.

Alabama Course of Study Social Studies Objectives:

2.1 Compare features of modern-day living to those of the past.

Information Literacy Objective:

1. Identify the encyclopedia as a source of information.
2. Identify the Internet as a source of information about people, places, and things.

Guided Questions:

- What is the setting of this story?
- Who are the characters in the story?
- How do you think the children felt when they saw a Model T Ford as their surprise? Why?
- How does this car differ from cars today?
- Why did Mama drive the car?

Learning Activities:

- Before reading, the teacher will have students make predictions about the story based on the title.
- The teacher will have students imagine life before cars were invented.
- The students will listen as the teacher reads the story aloud. Students will relate text to self and to other texts they have read.
- The students will orally answer comprehension questions from the story.
- The students will participate in a discussion of automobiles.
- The students will create a list of comparisons between automobiles today and in the past.
- The students will determine if automobiles make life simpler or more complicated.
- The students will be able to try to crank and drive a virtual Model T through the Henry Ford Museum Web site. This site allows the students to “follow one fictional family's adventures in the summer of 1919 as recorded by the daughter as the family shops for, buys, drives and plans a vacation in a new Model T.” Each child can try to crank a Model T in a virtual drive.
<http://www.thehenryford.org/education/smartfun/welcome.html>
- The students will complete a research activity in which they will visit the media center and use the resources there (encyclopedias, online information sources, and reference books) to gather information and compile facts into a written paragraph about automobiles.

Teaching Strategies:

- The teacher will read aloud.
- The teacher will promote discussions among students.
- The students will participate in discussions and list making.
- The teacher will guide students in the use of technology when using the internet to look up facts about the automobile
- The teacher will use technology (such as the Smart Board) when showing pictures of the automobile including the Model T, as well as the story of the fictional family driving in the Model T.

- The teacher will guide students in the use of encyclopedias, books and other material for research. The media specialist will have already taught the use of these materials.

Management:

- The students will listen to the teacher read aloud in a designated reading center (reading circle, reading corner, etc.).
- Students with special needs have access to reading circle and have ample room for emergency exits.
- Students will go to the media center to research information.

Materials and Resources:

- The teacher will need *Mama and Me and the Model T* by Faye Gibbons.
- The teacher and students will need access to the media center as well as encyclopedias and other reference books and information sources.
- The teacher would benefit from access to a Smart Board to display pictures of modern inventions.

Assessment:

- Students will compile a list of comparisons in the way present-day automobiles are different from those of the past. – Assessment through teacher observation
- Students will have an opportunity to take part in a research activity in which they will gather information about the automobile. During this research activity, the students will be provided with a checklist to guide their research. This checklist will explain the information they must find and the information that must be in their paragraph. This checklist will also contain all other details that must be included such as the number of sentences in the written report or the number of facts/slides in the visual report. – Assessment through teacher grading
- Using their checklist and information gathered, students will write one paragraph about what they learned in doing their research about the Model T Ford.

Curriculum Connections:

- After reading the story *Mama and Me and the Model T*, the teacher should tell the students that this author is from Alabama. The teacher can then share the location on the map of the town Gibbons is from.
- Students can find slang and word variations and discuss their meanings.