The Mastodons Final Presentation on Greene County, NY

By: Kimberly Fusco, Eleanor Hampson, Kelley Hannifin, and Dorothy Hurley
Mountains of Beauty, History, Culture, and Tourism

A short video clip about Greene County:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j_Y6an6Eo0Y
The corrections we made to the midterm include fixing a few grammatical errors, making it clear that the links are embedded in the pictures, restating inaccurate information, revising route markers, and adding information to our overview. We realized that the Thomas Cole National Historic Site is Cedar Grove and added that to the final.
The Catskill Mountains that sit to the west of the Hudson River in Greene County, NY, have inspired numerous works of art and literature, and today provides many opportunities for learning, tourism, scenic views, and historic appreciation.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Lesson Plans..................................................Kim Fusco
- Guidebook Pages and Itinerary.........................Dorothy Hurley & Eleanor Hampson
- Wayside Exhibit Panels.................................Eleanor Hampson
- Highway Route Markers...............................Kelley Hannifin
LESSON PLANS

- Key Sites:
  1. The Bronk Museum
  2. Historic Catskill Point
  3. Thomas Cole National Historic Site/Cedar Grove
  4. Hudson-Athens Lighthouse
  5. Pratt Rock Park
  6. Kaaterskill Falls

- Models Being Used: Direct instruction, discovery learning, and inquiry

- Learning Intelligences Being Used: Visual, Kinesthetic, Auditory, and Howard Gardner
STANDARDS AND MATERIALS

Social Studies

- Standard 1: History of the United States and New York
- Standard 3: Geography

Overall Materials/ Instructional Resources:
Warm jackets, comfortable shoes/hiking shoes, watercolors, colored pencils, markers, pens, paper, watercolor paper, lighthouse diagrams/blue prints, index cards with assignments and background information, props, costumes, poster board, handout with mini quiz, water, paintbrushes, handout with scavenger hunt, and a notebook.
Students will be split into groups and taken on a guided tour of the housing complex. They will learn about the collections of art and Victorian memorabilia that is on display and about the 8 generations of families who lived in the houses. The activity will be based on the daily lives of the 19th century farmers in Greene County, New York. The focus will be on the daily life of common people in towns of the Hudson River Valley.

Procedure: 1.) Students take the guided tour of the housing complex 2.) Each student will get an index card with a role of a common Green County community member. 3.) Students will put on simple costumes: checkered shirts for farmers, hats for women, etc. and get props to get into character 4.) Students will act out chores from the daily life of the Greene County community members including pretending to farm, take care of farm animals, clean the bar, use the spinning machine, sew etc.

Closure: The people of Greene County in the 19th century had very different lives from today. Students will discuss what they liked or disliked about their job as a member of the community and talk about how different those chores are from what needs to be done in today’s society.
Students will walk around the plaza and park at Historic Catskill Point and get an idea of the area. Students will sit outside right on the Hudson River and be able to see the floating docks located at Historic Catskill Point. Here they will learn a lesson about industry along the Hudson River Valley, including the invention and use of steamboats, trains, pottery, shipbuilding, and other industries. The focus will be on industries in the Hudson River Valley.

Procedure: 1.) Students will walk around the Historic Catskill Point complex. They will see the Freight Master’s Building and the Historic Warehouse, and how the grounds are now used today for weddings and special events 2.) Students will walk around the plaza and park, and sit on a bench facing the floating docks 3.) Students will hear a short lecture on the history of industry in the Hudson River Valley 4.) Students will get into groups, each representing one key industry in the Hudson River Valley 5.) Students will create a poster arguing that their industry is the most significant and important and why 6. Groups will present their arguments.

Closure: The Hudson River provided many opportunities for industry, especially in Greene County. Students will be able to see that steamboats and railroads were very significant modes of transportation for goods and resources. Students will understand the importance of each industry through the group’s posters.
This lesson will cover the Hudson River School and how the artists who studied there painted the scenery of the Hudson River Valley. Students will be able to express themselves by painting how they see the Hudson River Valley by using watercolors. Cedar Grove will provide the historic information about Thomas Cole and the Hudson River School to prepare students to create their own original painting of the landscapes of Greene County. The focus will be on the art and painters of the Hudson River Valley.

Closure: Students will be able to see the impact that the picturesque Catskill Mountains had on painters. They will see how the Hudson River School was established and how Thomas Cole was the most famous of the painters. The original painting will spark the student’s creativity and get them interested in looking at the landscapes of Greene County in different ways.

Procedure:
1.) Students will take a guided tour of Cedar Grove and Thomas Cole’s home.
2.) Students will see the film on Thomas Cole’s life.
3.) Students will take a mini quiz on the film.
4.) While walking around the complex, students will see the landscape, including the flowers and trees strategically planted.
5.) Students will sit through the lecture on the Hudson River School provided by the site employees.
6.) Students will go on a short hike to see areas where specific Hudson River School Painters got their inspiration.
7.) Using watercolors, students will paint their own landscape based on Greene County landscapes.
Hudson-Athens Lighthouse

Students will take a ferry to the lighthouse and go on a tour of the 8-room structure. Students will get insight into how the lighthouse was built and the life of the family who lived there. The focus will be on architecture the different styles of homes and rooms in the Hudson River Valley.

Procedure: 1. Students will take a ferry to the metal stairs, which takes visitors into the interior of the lighthouse 2. Students will be greeted by their tour guide and Emily Brunner, who lived in the lighthouse growing up 3. Students will take a guided tour of the lighthouse and hear information about the Brunner family and the development of towns in Greene County 4. Students will have an introduction to all of the rooms in the lighthouse and how they were built 5. After the tour, students will draw their own dream home using the architectural techniques they just hear about 6. Students will choose the town in Greene County they will want their house to be in based on the information provided about the towns.

Closure: Students will experience the Hudson-Athens lighthouse by going on a tour and actually speaking to a woman who grew up in it. They will see which types of architectural techniques that they liked the best from the lighthouse and apply their favorites to their own creation of a Green County house. Students will learn how towns developed in Greene County and will decide which characteristics of the towns appeal to them. They will see why the Hudson River Valley, Greene County specifically, was an attractive area for many people to live.
PRATT ROCK PARK

Students will get to see “The First Mount Rushmore,” which is a series of stone carvings, located in Prattsville, New York. They will get a feeling of the historic significance of the carvings and the importance of Zadock Pratt. The focus will be on the government and significant people on Green County.

Procedure: 1.) Students will take a walk through the rocks and see all of the carvings 2.) Students will complete a scavenger hunt activity, looking for certain carvings and matching them with the meaning 3.) When the scavenger hunt is completed, the teacher will discuss the answers and why the carvings are so significant 4.) The students will hear a short lecture about Zadock Pratt, why the carvings were made, and the influence he and other significant figures had on the government and economy.

Closure: Through this activity students will understand Zadock Pratt’s significance and influence on the towns in Greene County. They will see how an influential, wealthy family was involved in the government and economy. They will see the carvings of the stonecutters in the Pratt family and how they represent different important occurrences in Greene County history.
KAATERSKILL FALLS

Students will be able to view Kaaterskill Falls from their hotel at Hunter Mountain, as well as from Kaaterskill High Peak. Students will not be able to hike the trail to get close to the falls because they are challenging for experienced hikers and way too dangerous to take young children to. From Kaaterskill High Peak students will see the two-drop waterfall and be inspired to write a story that incorporates the falls. The focus will be on literature in the Hudson River Valley.

Procedure: 1.) Students will walk on the trail to Kaaterskill High Peak to view Kaaterskill Falls 2.) The teacher will read *Rip Van Winkle* and explain how Kaaterskill Falls and other breathtaking views inspire many works of literature. 3.) Students will write their own short story that incorporates Kaaterskill Falls.

Closure: Students will understand how important the scenic views of the Hudson River Valley, Greene County in particular, were to many writers. They will see how *Rip Van Winkle* became an important icon for Greene County because he fell asleep in the Catskill Mountains. Students can put themselves in writer’s shoes and see how easy it was for them to be inspired by the scenery of the county and incorporate many locations of the Hudson River Valley into their works.
A 3-Day Weekend Itinerary Overview

Day 1:
1.) Thomas Cole National Historic Site: Cedar Grove
   Lunch at La-Conca-D’Oro
2.) Historic Catskill Point
3.) Kaaterskill Falls
Dinner at VanWinkle’s Restaurant at the Kaatskill Mountain Club
   Spend night at the Kaatskill Mountain Club

Day 2:
4.) Pratt Rock
   Lunch at Athens Riverside Café
5.) Hudson-Athens
6.) Bronck Museum
   Dinner at Blue Water Bistro

Day 3:
Ski Day at Hunter Mountain!
DAY 1: FRIDAY

Depart from George Washington Bridge, NYC at 7:30 AM.

Arrive at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site: Cedar Grove at 10:00 AM for a group tour.

Driving Directions (2 hours and 8 minutes):

1. Head east on Interstate 95 Lower Level N
2. Take exit 2 on the left for Harlem River Dr toward FDR Dr/Manhattan
3. Keep right at the fork to continue toward Amsterdam Ave
4. Turn right onto Amsterdam Ave
5. Turn right onto the George Washington Bridge/I-95 ramp
6. Continue straight onto Interstate 95 Upper Level S/George Washington Bridge
7. Take the NJ-4/I-95 S exit toward Hackensack/I-80/New Jersey Turnpike
8. Take exit 72A to merge onto NJ-4 W toward Paramus
9. Exit onto NJ-17 N
10. Merge onto I-287 N/NJ-17 N via the ramp on the left to I-87/N Y. Thruway Entering New York
11. Keep left at the fork, follow signs for I-87 N/NY-17 N/Albany and merge onto I-87 N/NY-17 N Continue to follow I-87 N
12. Take exit 21 toward NY-23/Catskill/Cairo
13. Continue straight.
14. Turn left onto Co Rd 23B/Main St
15. Turn left to merge onto NY-23 E
16. Turn right onto Spring St. Destination will be on the left.
Greene County, NY

Thomas Cole National Historic Site: Cedar Grove

http://www.thomascole.org/
218 Spring Street,
Catskill, NY

Hours: The Main House and Studio are open by guided tour. From the first weekend in May through the last weekend in October, tours are offered Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10 am-4 pm. (Please note: Our last tour begins at 3 pm.) Tours are offered at other times by appointment.

Tours: Tours of the Main House begin approximately every hour on a first-come-first-served basis. Tours last about 50 minutes, and each tour is limited to approximately 12 people.

Admissions: Admission to the Main House and Old Studio is by guided tour and tickets can be purchased in the Visitor Center. Tickets are $9 per person during regular open hours. Seniors over 62 and students with ID are $7 per person. Admission to the grounds is free of charge.

Group tours are welcome by advance appointment by calling 518-943-7465

Historical Description: Cedar Grove is the home of famous American painter Thomas Cole, who is credited with launching the Hudson River School art movement.

The Site: At the Tomas Cole Historic Site, you can join a guided tour of Cole’s home and studio, see a film about his art, stroll through the flower gardens, and enjoy the sweeping views of the Catskill Mountains.

Directions: Take the Taconic Parkway North to the Hudson Exit (Route 82 North) to Route 23 West. (Note: Route 82 also crosses the Taconic further south. Do not take Route 82 until you see the sign for Hudson.) Cross the Hudson River over The Rip Van Winkle Bridge. Make a left at the first light at the intersection of Route 23 and Route 385 (Spring Street). The Thomas Cole Historic Site is immediately on the left. (Use the shared driveway with Temple Israel.)
After the tour, drive to Catskill, NY for lunch at La-Conca D’Oro at 12:00PM (special reservation).

Driving Directions from Cedar Grove to restaurant (2 minutes):
1. Head south on Spring St toward Sunset St
2. Slight right onto Thompson St
3. Take the 3rd right onto Main St

Specialties:
- Veal Oscar
- Eggplant Parmesan

All meals come with a house salad nicely prepared and hot crusty bread with seasoned butter.
After lunch, you walk to the end of Main Street to visit the Historic Catskill Point. Arrive at 1:30 PM.

After exploring Catskill Point, you will drive to Kaaterskill Falls for a hike. Arrival 3:00 PM.

Driving directions from Catskill Point to Kaaterskill Falls (18 minutes):
1. Head south on Main St toward Church St
2. Turn right onto Bridge St
3. Continue onto New York 23A W
Historical Description: In days gone by, the Catskill Point served as the gateway to the Catskills with the Day Liner boats transporting visitors from New York City to this site. From here, visitors could venture further via railway to the many grand hotel resorts, like the Catskill Mountain House, which have been made famous by the Hudson River School of Painters.

The Site: The Historic Catskill Point is a 3 and 1/2 acre park that includes an open-air cobblestone plaza, a park overlooking the Hudson River and Catskill Creek, floating docks, and two buildings: the Freight Master’s Building and the Historic Warehouse.

Directions: The park is located at the end of Main Street in Catskill, NY

Hours: open year round

To schedule a special event contact the Greene County Center for Tourism at:

Greene County Tourism
700 Rt 23B, Leeds, NY 12451

(518) 943-3223
(800) 355-CATS
tourism@discovergreene.com
The Site: Kaaterskill Falls is a two-drop waterfall located near in the eastern Catskill Mountains of New York, on the north side of Kaaterskill Clove, between the hamlets of Haines Falls and Palenville in Greene County. The dual cascades total 260 feet (79 m) in height, making it one of the higher waterfalls in New York, and one of the Eastern United States’ tallest waterfalls.

Directions: For those not able to get too close to it, the falls can be seen in their entirety in the distance from the northern approach to the summit of Kaaterskill High Peak, across the clove, and sometimes even from the fire tower on Hunter Mountain. Otherwise, you can access the falls from High Road Extension.

Historical Description: The falls are one of America's oldest tourist attractions, with it appearing in some of the most prominent books, essays, poems and paintings of the early 19th century.
DAY 1 (CONT.)

After your hike, you will drive to the Kaatskill Mountain Club, where you will be staying for the next two nights. It is adjacent to Hunter Mountain.

Driving directions to Kaatskill Mountain Club (50 minutes):

1. Head **northwest** on New York 23A W toward Wingate Rd
2. Turn left onto **NY-42 S**
3. Turn left to stay on **NY-42 S**
4. Turn right to stay on **NY-42 S**
5. Slight right onto **Beech Ridge Rd**
6. Take the 1st left to stay on **Beech Ridge Rd**
7. Turn left onto **NY-42 N**
8. Slight right onto **Co Rd 6/Spruceton Rd**
Dinner is at VanWinkle’s Restaurant at the Kaatskill Mountain Club at 7:00 PM.

An optional special group snow tubing event will take place at 9:30 PM.

Specialties:
- 14oz Grilled Hereford Ribeye Steak
- 16oz Grilled Hereford Porterhouse Steak
- Pan Roasted Duck Breast
- Chicken Saltimbocca
- Roast Stuffed Chicken
- Thai Chicken Stir-Fry
DAY 2: SATURDAY

Breakfast is at the Market Place Food Court at the Hunter Lodge at 7:30 AM.

After breakfast, you will drive to Prattsville, NY to climb Pratt Rock. You will arrive at 9:00 AM.

Driving directions to Pratt Rock (27 minutes):
1. Head southwest on Co Rd 6/Spruceton Rd toward Auffarth Rd
2. Continue onto NY-42 N
3. Turn left to stay on NY-42 N
4. Turn right to stay on NY-42 N
5. Turn left onto New York 23A W
6. Continue straight onto NY-23 W
Historical Description: Pratt Park, donated to the townspeople by Zadock Pratt in 1843, encompasses this twenty-acre portion of steep hillside and sheer cliff face above. Originally called Monument Hill, the park was listed in 1992 on both the New York State Register of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places. The accepted legend that Pratt hired a jobless stonecutter to memorialize his own accomplishments in the grey sandstone cliffs above Prattsville—that is, in lieu of simply giving the man a handout—is probably not true, but such stories die hard. It is very likely that a number of skilled stonecutters worked on and off over a period of twenty-eight years to accomplish these distinctly separate and stylistically incongruous images.

The Site: This twenty acre portion of steep hillside and sheer cliff face memorializes the achievements of Zaddock Pratt, the most prominent tanner in the Northern Catskill Region during the early-to-mid nineteenth century.

Directions: Visit this site to see driving directions from multiple locations http://www.prattmuseum.com/directions.html
DAY 2 (CONT.)

After visiting Pratt Rock Park, you will drive to the city of Athens, NY for lunch at Athens Riverside Café at 11:45 AM.

Driving directions to Athens Riverside Cafe (47 minutes):

1. Head southeast on NY-23 E
2. Take the 1st left to stay on NY-23 E
3. Turn left onto NY-385 N/Spring St
4. Continue to follow NY-385 N
5. Turn right onto 3rd St

Specialties:
- Specialty sandwiches
- Burgers
- Salads
- Homemade soups
DAY 2 (CONT.)

After lunch, you will walk to Athens Village Riverfront Park to take a boat tour of the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse at 1:30 PM.

After the boat tour you will drive to Coxsackie, NY for a 3:30 PM tour of the Bronck Museum.
Historical Description: In the late 1880’s, hazards created by the Middle Ground Flats opposite the City of Hudson made navigation of the Hudson river at that point extremely risky for the busy shipping route. After much petitioning to the Congress of the United States, a survey was completed and an appropriation of $35,000.00 was approved by Congress in 1872 to build the Hudson City Lighthouse now known as the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse. Construction was begun in early 1873, and the lighthouse was completed and put into operation on November 14, 1874. The facility served as a manned lighthouse until the 1950s at which time the lighthouse was automated and a named facility was no longer a necessity. Today, the Lighthouse still serves an aid to navigation, guiding ships safely around the Middle Ground Flats.

The Site: The eight room structure is located on the Hudson River and includes a kitchen, dining room, four bedrooms, lantern room, and fog bell.

Directions: The lighthouse is located on the Hudson River between the city of Hudson and the town of Athens. Call for further directions on how to get to sites where the boat tours leave.
DAY 2 (CONT.)

Driving directions to the Bronck Museum (12 minutes):

1. Head northwest on 3rd St toward 1st Alley
2. Take the 2nd right onto S Washington St
3. Take the 1st left onto 2nd St
4. Turn right onto County Rd 28/Schoharie Turnpike
5. Turn right onto US-9W NDestination will be on the left

After the tour, you will drive to your dinner reservations at Blue Water Bistro in Coxsackie, NY at 5:30 PM

Driving directions to Blue Water Bistro (7 minutes):

1. Head northeast on US-9W N toward Peter Bronk Rd
2. Turn right onto NY-385 S
3. Continue onto Mansion St
4. Slight left onto Reed StDestination will be on the right
Historical Description: The Bronck Museum complex includes the eleven remaining structures that once comprised the Bronck family farm. The land was purchased from the local Mohican tribe in 1662 by Pieter Bronck, a Swede and his Dutch wife Helletje Jans. Pieter built the first dwelling on the farm in 1663. By the early 1800's the farm had become the single most valuable property in the county. During the nineteenth century as both the Bronck family and their farm prospered, additional barns and farm structures were built. The family maintained continuous ownership of the farm for 276 years passing it from parent to child, for eight generations.

The Site: The Bronck Museum is a collection of 11 buildings once part of the Bronck family farm that is now owned by the Greene County Historical Society. It is considered the “Hudson Valley’s Oldest Home” and during the nineteenth century it was the most valuable property in the Hudson River Valley.

Directions:
From Thruway Exit 21B, Coxsackie: South on 9W 3⅓ miles; at RED BARN turn right on Pieter Bronck Road.
From Traffic Light at 9W and 81: South on 9W 1½ miles; at RED BARN turn right on Pieter Bronck Road.
From Catskill: North on 9W; then left on County Rt. 42
After dinner you will return to the Kaatskill Mountain Club for a relaxing evening.

Directions back to Kaatskill Mountain Club (1 hour and 24 minutes):
1. Head west on Reed St toward Ely St
2. Continue onto Mansion St
3. Turn left onto US-9W S
4. Continue onto New York 23A W
5. Turn left onto NY-42 S
6. Turn left to stay on NY-42 S
7. Turn right to stay on NY-42 S
8. Slight right onto Beech Ridge Rd
9. Take the 1st left to stay on Beech Ridge Rd
10. Turn left onto NY-42 N
11. Slight right onto Co Rd 6/Spruceton Rd

Day 3: Sunday
Ski Day!!
DIRECTIONS HOME

Directions from Hunter Mountain back to the George Washington Bridge (2 hours and 41 minutes):

1. Head southwest on Co Rd 6/Spruceton Rd toward Auffarth Rd
2. Continue onto NY-42 N
3. Sharp left onto Beech Ridge Rd
4. Take the 1st left to stay on Beech Ridge Rd
5. Turn right onto NY-42 S
6. Continue onto NY-28 E
7. At the traffic circle, take the 3rd exit Partial toll road
8. Keep left at the fork, follow signs for I-87 S/New York City and merge onto I-87 Partial toll road
9. Take exit 15 for NY-17 S/I-287 S toward New Jersey
10. Merge onto I-287 S Entering New Jersey
11. Take exit 59 to merge onto NJ-208 S toward Franklin Lakes
12. Continue onto NJ-4 E
13. Take the I-95 N exit on the left toward G W Bridge/New York City
14. Merge onto Interstate 95 Lower Level N
Located in Coxsackie, NY, the Bronck Museum is a collection of 11 buildings once part of the Bronck family farm that is now owned by the Greene County Historical Society. It is considered the “Hudson Valley’s Oldest Home” and during the nineteenth century it was the most valuable property in the Hudson River Valley.

Named for the American Revolutionary War Veteran, Nathanael Greene, Greene County is located to the west of the beautiful Hudson River. Greene County has produced many celebrated works of art and literature, and is a great place for outdoor activities, scenic views, vacationing, and exploration of history because of its location in the Catskill Mountains and Hudson River Valley.
Historic Catskill Point

This three and a half acre park is located where the Hudson River meets the Catskill Creek. The point is the site of two historical industrial sites—the Freight Master’s Building and the Historic Warehouse. Today, these two restored nineteenth century buildings are used for private functions.

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The Thomas Cole National Historic Site, Cedar Grove, is located in the historic town of Catskill, NY. It is the home of famous American painter Thomas Cole, who is credited with launching the Hudson River School art movement. At the Thomas Cole Historic Site you can join a guided tour of Cole’s home and studio, see a film about his art, stroll through the flower gardens, and enjoy the sweeping views of the Catskill Mountains.

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Hudson-Athens Lighthouse

Located in the middle of the Hudson River between the village of Athens and the city of Hudson, this eight room structure was completed in 1874. It was built to guide ships around the difficult to navigate Middle Ground Flats. Since its opening, the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse has been operated and maintained by the United States Coast Guard.
Pratt Rock Park

Located in Prattsville, NY, this twenty acre portion of steep hillside and sheer cliff face memorializes the achievements of Zaddock Pratt, the most prominent tanner in the Northern Catskill Region during the early-to-mid nineteenth century. Ripley’s Believe It or Not once called it, “New York’s Mount Rushmore.” In 1992, it was listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places.

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Kaaterskill Falls

The tallest cascading waterfall in New York State, Kaaterskill Falls’ dual cascade reaches 260 feet in height. The falls earned particular fame when the story *Rip Van Winkle* by Washington Irving became popular.
EXAMPLE OF HIGHWAY ROUTE MARKER

The Bronck Museum
The Bronck Museum
Historic Catskill Point
Thomas Cole National Historic Site: Cedar Grove
Hudson-Athens Lighthouse
Pratt Rock Park
Kaaterskill Falls
WEBSITES ABOUT GREENE COUNTY

- http://www.gchistory.org/
- http://www.vedderlibrary.org/vrlmus.htm
- http://www.thomascole.org/
- http://www.hudsonathenslighthouse.org/
- http://www.localhikes.com/Hikes/kaaterskill_0000.asp
- http://www.greenegovernment.com/
- http://www.greatnortherncatskills.com/
CONCLUSION

Greene County, NY has proven itself to be an area rich in culture and history, as well as a place that is ideal for tourism.

Come visit Greene County!