Fox Historians
Team 2

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The Element that Sparked Prosperity
Agenda of Key Parts

- Team Logo – Tiffany
  - Thesis- Group
- Mock Website - Jess
- Synthesis of Midterm – Group
- Lesson Plan- Danielle & Haleigh
  - Guidebook – Tiffany
  - Itinerary – Sante
- Conclusion- Group
Thesis:

The Hudson River Valley made the iron industry possible because of conveniently located natural resources, useable land for production, and the zest of industrialists that made the businesses their own.
Important Features of the Iron Industry

- History of Troy, New York & Rockland County
- Description of Industry
- Relationship to the Hudson River Valley
- Industrialists
Lesson Plan- Grades 6-8

**Topic**: Iron Industry

**Time**: 165-180 minutes

**Content Area**: History: New York, Hudson River Valley, Cold Spring

**State Standard**: Social Studies Standard 1: History of the United States and New York

- Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of major ideas, eras, themes, developments, and turning points in the history of the United States and New York.
Objectives:

• Students will learn about the history of the Putnam County Historical Society & Foundry School Museum (PCHS & FSM) to understand why it is important to the Hudson River Valley.

• Students will gain a better understanding of the West Point Foundry and how iron made an impact during the time.

• Students will use a graphic organizer to compare and contrast the life of a 19th century child to a child of today.
Introduction:

• To introduce the lesson, an informed speaker from the West Point Foundry will speak to the class about the iron industry. After the discussion he or she will show an exhibit of weapons that were made of iron, after 1812.
Procedure:

During Field Trip:
- The students will learn how children of the 19th century were forced to work with iron, in mines and factories. They will compare this information to the way children are affected by iron today.
- Students will have a one to two hour tour in the museum as well as an age appropriate hands on activity.
- During the tour the guide gives an in-depth history of the West Point Foundry as well as a discussion about the life of a 19th century child.

Post Trip (Wrap Up):
- Students will be broken up into groups to discuss their individual findings.
- Students will use their graphic organizers as a guide.
- The black board will be divided into similarities and differences for the students to go up and write their group results.
Conclusion:

- Students will be asked to share their likes and dislikes about both the speaker and the field trip.

- **Key Website:** http://www.pchs-fsm.org
River Spark Visitor Center
251 River Street
Troy, NY, USA 12180
http://www.troyvisitorcenter.org
Tel: (518) 270-8667

OPEN: May 15 through September:
HOURS: Tuesday through Friday
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Some Fridays
10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

OPEN: October through May 15:
HOURS: Tuesday through Saturday
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Some Fridays
11 a.m.- 8 p.m.

Historical Description:
“The theme of this area is Industry and Labor. Abundant and cheap water power sparked the nations first major industrial communities. Its strategic location along natural waterways made it a transportation hub or a network of canals and later railroads which stretched far to the north and west. It was the center of the thriving iron and textile industries, and the birthplace of some of the nation's first labor and union activities.”

The Site:
“The River Spark Heritage Area is composed of seven municipalities: Cohoes, Colonie, Green Island, Town of Waterford, Village of Waterford, Watervliet and Troy (where River Spark is currently headquartered).”

Directions:
From the North:
Take I-87 south to Exit 7 (Rt. 7 east). Take Rt. 7 east to Downtown Troy exit. Follow signs for downtown Troy, which will bring you onto 6th Avenue. Turn right one block past third traffic light onto Broadway. The Visitor Center is at the end of Broadway at 251 River Street.
Historical Description:
This society has collected and preserved historical and cultural materials pertaining to the Philipstown area, the West Point Foundry, and Putnam County, and make these materials available to the public. To fulfill this mission, the society maintains and administers the Foundry School Museum, archives, a library of genealogical records; provides regulated public access to its collections; and plans, develops, and presents informational and educational programs for the public.

The Site:
“The museum is owned by a not-for-profit corporation under the oversight of the Department of Education of the State of New York. Governed by a board of trustees composed mostly of local residents accomplished mostly in business and the professions, the museum is staffed by an executive director, a curator, an education director, and administrative assistant, and a part-time computer consultant.

Directions:
From the South, New York/New Jersey:
Palisades Parkway North to the Bear Mountain Bridge, (traffic circle at the end of Parkway). Cross bridge, turn left onto Route 9D, follow 9D North approximately 9 miles through Garrison to Cold Spring. Turn left onto Chestnut Street, continue to #63.
Burden Iron Works Museum

1 E Industrial Parkway
Foot of Polk Street
Troy, NY 12180


Phone: 518-274-5267

Hours: Guided tours by appointment only.

Historical Description:
“Troy's most famous inventor. Burden was an inventive genius. He built an industrial complex in South Troy that featured the most powerful water wheel in the world. Burden's horseshoe machine, capable of making sixty horseshoes a minute, was a technological wonder. His rotary concentric squeezer, a machine for working wrought iron, was adopted by iron industries world wide. His hook-headed spike machine helped fuel the rapid expansion of railroads in the U.S. Henry Burden realized that Troy's strategic location as a hub of rail and water transportation networks made it possible to produce and ship an enormous quantity of finished goods—fifty one million horseshoes per year, for instance.”

The Site:
The museum is operated by the Hudson Mohawk Industrial Gateway, which also maintains downtown Troy’s River Spark Visitor Center (where there are additional exhibits about the city's history) and sponsors a regular series of tours, the most popular of which focuses on Troy's large concentration of Tiffany windows.

Directions:
Call for directions.
West Point Foundry

Historical Description:
This foundry introduces the ruins of the boring mill, blast furnace and the casting house where workers made the first three domestic locomotive trains, the Civil War's world-famous Parrott cannon, steam engines and boilers, and massive pipes for parts of New York City's water system.

The Site:
The public can step back to the dawn of the Industrial Revolution -- when America was changing from a nation of farms to one of emerging cities. Those who love history and the outdoors will not want to miss a visit to the remains of this internationally renowned manufacturing facility, along the Hudson River, that helped shape our modern world.

Directions:
From the traffic light at Route 9D and Main Street (Route 301) in Cold Spring, take third left onto Rock Street and continue to the end. Turn right on Kemble Ave. At end turn left through gate. Also, the site is a short walk from the Cold Spring train station (follow ramp and path). For more information, please contact Rita Shaheen, Scenic Hudson, (845) 473-4440, ext. 230.
This trip will be a 2 day, 1 night stay, visiting four key attractions in the Hudson River Valley that focus on the Iron Industry.

- **Starting point:** The George Washington Bridge at 11:00 am
- Leaving from Fort Lee, NJ, it was take exactly two hours and 39 minutes, to reach the first site, which is the River Spark Visitor Center, located at 58 Remsen St, Cohoes, NY.
- Reaching the RiverSpark Visitor Center at 1:40, guests will be able to grab a quick meal at Café-Deli-Icious, located 413 River St.
- After eating, visitors will enter the first sight at 2:15, leaving at 4:00
- Visitors will then make their way to Burden Iron Works Museum, located at 1 E Industrial Parkway Foot of Polk Street Troy, NY.
- Visitors are scheduled to be there at 4:30.
**Itinerary…**

- **Ending the day:** Visitors will check in at the St. Charles Hotel, located at 16-18 Park Place Hudson, NY.
- Upon check out at 9 am tourists will continue to the Putnam County Historical Society and Foundry School Museum, located at 63 Chestnut Street, Cold Spring, NY. The drive will take one hour and 18 minutes.
- Arriving around 10:30 am tourists will view the museum for an hour and a half.
- After the tour, traveling south of downtown Cold Spring tourist will visit West Point Foundry. Tourist will stay for two hours, and then return to New York City.
Conclusion:

Overall the iron industry served great significance to the Hudson River Valley. The economy depended on this industry in order to prosper. Its purpose, although simple, invigorated an emerging economic system that set the stage for the Hudson River Valley of today.


