

Teaching *The Hudson River Valley Review*

Frederic Church

Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Extract 10 significant events or actions taken by Frederic Church that most influence the Hudson River Valley
- Rank the 10 impactful events or actions from most to least (recognizing all as influential).
- Make a PowerPoint using their top 10 events and present the slides to their peers.

Standards:

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

Key Idea 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.

Performance Indicator - Know the roots of American culture, its development from many different traditions, and the ways many people from a variety of groups and backgrounds played a role in creating it.

Performance Indicator - Distinguish between near and distant past and interpret simple timelines.

Teacher Resources:

- [*The Hudson River Valley Review* article “‘The Art of the Landscape Gardener’: Frederic Church at Olana” by Robert M. Toole](#)

Materials:

- *Hudson River Valley Review* Article
- Paper
- Pencil/pen
- Computer with access to PowerPoint

Procedures:

1. Have the class read the article together with the teacher.
2. Have students identify 10 significant events or actions taken by Church that most influenced his work.
3. Break students up into groups of four to five students.
4. Provide time for students to decide on the 10 events or actions their group will select for the presentation.
5. Have students rank their events or actions as most significant to least significant.
6. Have students explain how their top 10 are significant in a brief reflection about their ranking system.
7. Students will create an 11 page PowerPoint presentations. Page one will be the title page and include all student names. (Students may include examples of his art in the slides.) The remaining 10 slides are to be each of the ten significant events with an explanation of each.
8. Share finished PowerPoint with peers and discuss.

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Assessment:

- Final PowerPoint and class discussions on findings

Enrichment:

- Create a play that outlines the life of Frederic Church, including Thomas Cole as a main character.