

Petaluma Watershed Timeline Activity

Option One

Prep: Print cards out on cardstock and cut pages in half so that dates and events are separated

1. Divide class into 4 groups and give each group a set of 4 matching dates and events.
2. Give students time to discuss their cards with their group and decide which events match with which dates. (ex: First group gets earliest four events and dates, second group gets second earliest four events and dates, etc)
3. Have the groups come up one at a time to put their events and dates in order in front of the class.
4. When all the dates are up, correct any mistakes.
5. Discuss

This option encourages critical thinking and gives students the opportunity to do close reading on a few historical events.

Option Two

Prep: Print cards out on cardstock. Do not cut in half to separate dates from events.

1. Take students outside.
2. Assign 16 individual students a card (or pair off classmates so that all or some cards will be assigned to pairs)
3. Take students outside and ask them to stand in order of their dates.
4. Once students are arranged, choose one student (or pair) towards the center of the group and tell them to stay where they are.
5. Then tell students that for every 10 years of time between their date and the date of the person on the side of them that is closest to the middle of the group, they will need to make sure they are one step away from that person.
6. Once students are in order of events and arranged according the distance/time, have students read their cards (LOUDLY!)
7. Come back together and discuss.

This is a great activity to illustrate how long the Coast Miwok were here before European settlers. This activity does require A LOT of space and the person or pair with the Coast Miwok card may need to be told to walk as far away as possible.

OR Get creative! Feel free to use the cards in any way that works for your classroom!