

Marion's Railway History

Objective

Students will learn the definition of transportation. Students will learn information about the history of the railway system in Marion, Ohio.

Learning target

I can understand that Marion's railways helped to transport people and products from place to place.

Materials

- Copies of Marion's Railway History and comprehension questions (included in this packet) for each student.

Vocabulary

transportation, railway system

Procedures:

1. Begin by posing the question: What is **transportation**?
2. Through class discussion define **transportation** as the movement of people or goods from one place to another.
3. On chart paper, chart **transportation** and its definition.
4. In small groups or partnerships, ask students to brainstorm a list of various means of **transportation**, and add them to the chart. Make sure that **railway systems** or trains are listed on the chart.
5. Next, tell students that Marion, Ohio is well known for one means of transportation-railroads.
6. Introduce the Marion's Railway History informational sheet and read aloud the historical information on the sheet.
7. Ask students to answer the comprehension questions about the informational sheet.

Assessment

Students' responses to the comprehension questions.

Additional YouTube Resources (videos of trains in Marion, Ohio):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQPm4nvp_VA&t=51s

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T_ygU1PrYvw

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8yD6i72qopM>-this video is particularly good and includes dialogue.

Informational Resources for the Historical Information in this lesson:

http://www.ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Marion,_Ohio

<https://www.ohiotraveler.com/marion-union-station/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marion,_Ohio

<http://www.railfanguides.us/oh/marion/>

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Marion, Ohio has a rich railroad history. In the mid 1800's, Marion experienced a great deal of growth. One reason for this growth was Marion's location along two railroads. In the early 1900's, Warren G. Harding urged the building of The Marion Union Station. So, in 1902, The Marion Union Station was built.

Until the 1970's, Marion was a major industrial and manufacturing center for Ohio. The railway system in Marion was one of the major reasons for this. Trains would transport goods in and out of Marion. At one time, four major railroads called Marion, Ohio home. A passenger train service also ran through Marion, Ohio. This passenger service was stopped in 1971. At one time, Marion was nick-named "Little Chicago" because it was the largest and most frequent stop between New York and Chicago.

Currently, Marion is a railway center for CSX, and Norfolk Southern Railroads. Marion's railway system continues to move products in and out of Marion for businesses such as Wyandot Snacks, Whirlpool Corporation, and Nucor Steel. Today, Marion is a frequent destination for railroad fans. The Union Station is now a museum. Train watchers visit the station to watch more than 100 trains pass by the station each day.

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Marion's Railway History

Name _____

Marion's Railway History

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. Why did Marion grow in the 1800's?

2. Why would train watchers want to visit Marion today?

3. Why was Marion once nick-named "Little Chicago"?

4. How did Marion's railway system help to bring jobs to Marion?

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