

Historical Retell

LANGUAGE ARTS



Overview

Students research a historical event and create an animated retelling using Puppet Pals, bringing history to life through characters and dialogue.

Steps for Teachers

1. Assign or let students choose a historical event appropriate for their grade level
2. Have students research the event using provided resources or library materials
3. Students identify 3-5 key figures involved in the event
4. Students write a script that includes dialogue between historical figures
5. Students select or create characters in Puppet Pals to represent historical figures
6. Students choose appropriate backgrounds that match the time period
7. Students record their historical retelling, performing all character voices
8. Students present their videos to the class and answer questions about their research

Example

A student creates a video about the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Characters include Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson debating the document's wording. The setting is Independence Hall. Franklin says, 'We must hang together, or most assuredly we shall all hang separately!' Jefferson explains why certain phrases were chosen, and Adams argues for independence.

Grading Rubric

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Developing
Historical Accuracy	All facts are accurate; event is portrayed authentically with correct dates and details	Most facts are accurate with minor errors that don't affect understanding	Several inaccuracies present; event needs more research
Character Portrayal	Characters speak and act in ways consistent with historical records	Characters are generally believable with some anachronisms	Characters don't reflect historical personalities
Storytelling	Clear beginning, middle, and end; engaging narrative that captures the event's significance	Story is organized but may lack engagement or significance	Story is disorganized or hard to follow
Production Quality	Clear audio, smooth character movements, appropriate pacing	Minor technical issues that don't detract from content	Technical issues make content difficult to understand