



The Influence of Boats, Rail, Busses and Cars on the Development of Minnesota

Strand Identification: V - Geography

C. Spatial Organization

Standard 5: The student will analyze the patterns of location, functions, structure, and characteristics of local to global settlement patterns and the processes that affect the location of cities.

Benchmarks: **1.** Students will describe the contemporary patterns of large cities. **2.** Students will describe the processes that have produced this pattern of cities

Standard 6: The student will use regions and the interaction among them to analyze the present patterns of economic activity in the United States and around the world at various scales.

Benchmark: 4. Students will understand how the transportation and communication systems have impacted the development of regions.

Grade Level: 9-12

Overview: Using historical maps from the Minnesota Historical Society, student will be able to explain the routes and modes of transportation used in Minnesota. Student will also be able to explain how these patterns influenced the urban and economic development of the State.

Time: One to two class periods

Subjects/Topics: Human Geography

Required Materials:

1. Podcasts of associated maps to be downloaded or played on the computer.
2. The following maps from the Minnesota Historical Society will be needed to do this lesson:
 - 1688 – Vincenzo Coronelli, *Partie Occidentale du Canada ou de la Nouvelle France: ou sont les Nations des Illinois, de Tracy, les Iroquois, et Plusieurs Autres Peuples; Avec la Louisiane.* . .
 - 1810 – Nicholas King, *Map of the Mississippi River: from its Source to the Mouth of the Missouri Laid Down from the Notes of Lieut. Z. M. Pike*
 - 1814 – Meriweather Lewis and William Clark, *A Map of Lewis and Clark's Track Across the Western Portion of North America from the Mississippi to the Pacific Ocean*
 - 1886 – Rand, McNally & Co., *Official Railroad Map of Minnesota*
 - 1907 – *The Twin Cities: Their Famous Lakes, Rivers, Parks, and Resorts*
 - 1919 – *Minnesota State Roads Map*

1921 – The Yellowstone Trail Touring Service Map No. 9, Minnesota
1928 – The Northland Bus Routes: The Road to Pleasure...

3. Student Worksheet - *The Influence of Boats, Rail, Busses and Cars on the Development of Minnesota* (attached to this lesson).

Optional Technologies: If you cannot go to the Minnesota History Center, maps can be viewed by going to:

<http://www.macalester.edu/geography/mage/curriculum/mapsofmn/mapindex/index.htm>

Objectives: Students will be able to explain how past transportation routes influenced and helped to create the current locations of urban and economic areas.

Suggested Procedure:

Give each student the attached worksheet.

Instruct students to carefully view each map and listen to the pod casts to find the answers to the worksheet questions.

Once students have completed the worksheet, have them answer the Concluding Questions found at the end of the worksheet.

Answers should be written in complete and well thought out paragraphs.

Suggested Assessment: Students will turn in their completed Concluding Questions paragraphs to be graded by the teacher.

► ► ► **RESOURCES**

National Geography Standards:

IV. Human Systems

Standard 12. The processes, patterns and functions of human settlement

VI. Uses of Geography

Standard 17. How to apply geography to understand the past

Standard 18. How to apply geography to interpret the present and plan for the future

Supplemental Web Links for Teachers and Students:

<http://www.macalester.edu/geography/mage/curriculum/mapsofmn/mapindex/index.htm>

Credits: Sharon Shelerud, AP Human Geography and Human Geography Teacher, Burnsville School District and Teacher Consultant. MAGE Steering Committee, sharonmn@aol.com

The Influence of Boats, Rail, Busses and Cars on the Development of Minnesota – Student Worksheet

1688

Vincenzo Coronelli

Partie Occidentale du Canada ou de la Nouvelle France: ou sont les Nations des Illinois, de Tracy, les Iroquois, et Plusieurs Autres Peuples; Avec la Louisiane. . .

1. What type of trade opened up the Great lakes and the French Territories?
2. What is Lake Superior called on this map? _____
3. What waterway is shown very accurately? _____
4. What type of routes are shown on this map? (Look carefully)
5. Explain why the French emphasized waterways on this map.

1810

Nicholas King

Map of the Mississippi River: from its Source to the Mouth of the Missouri Laid Down from the Notes of Lieut. Z. M. Pike

1. What is unusual about this map?
2. What two native tribes was Pike not successful in making peace with? (You will need to listen to the pod cast for this information).

3. What is the significance of this map in regards to transportation?

1814

Meriwether Lewis and William Clark

A Map of Lewis and Clark's Track Across the Western Portion of North America from the Mississippi to the Pacific Ocean

1. What major physical feature is shown on this map that is not shown on the 1688 map?
2. How would this map be more beneficial to travelers than the map of 1688?
3. The type of information found on this map tells us about the modes of transportation used by Lewis and Clark. What were they?
4. What major rivers and bodies of water are shown on this map?
5. Name the river labeled at 43 degrees West longitude.
6. Name the river that flows into the southern tip of Lake Superior.
7. What body of water lies between 17 and 18 degrees West longitude?
8. Look north of St. Louis. What major river is shown joining the Mississippi River?
9. Compare the Lewis and Clark map with the Pike map in terms of scale, orientation, topographic and cultural landscape portrayal, use of Indian, French, and English place names.
10. What could Lewis and Clark do that the French explorers could not?

1886

Rand, McNally & Co.

Official Railroad Map of Minnesota

1. How many different railroad lines traveled to St. Paul? _____ Duluth? _____
2. What railroad line followed a route similar to that of Interstate 35?
3. What railroad line connected St. Cloud to Minneapolis?
4. What railroad line(s) connected Minneapolis/St. Paul to
 - a. Austin? _____
 - b. Rochester? _____
5. Name the railroad line that goes just to the Canadian border. What major Minnesota city does this line go to?
6. What Minnesota cities have direct railroad connections to the eastern part of the United States?
7. What does this map tell us about the connection between railroads line and the development/growth of Minnesota cities?
8. What factors influenced the pattern of the railroad network?
9. Where are railroad lines
 - a. most dense? _____
 - b. least dense? _____
10. What sorts of exaggeration are visible in the map?

1907

The Twin Cities: Their Famous Lakes, River, Parks and Resorts

1. What is the relationship between the title of the map and the red lines (solid and dotted)?

2. How many lines connect Minneapolis with St Paul?

3. How many lines connect Stillwater and Bayport?

4. Did the lines run to the industrial areas of Hopkins and South St Paul, North Minneapolis?

5. How did this pattern of lines *help* to *maintain* separate Minneapolis and St. Paul communities?

6. What lake is connected to by streetcar lines to
 - a. St. Paul? _____
 - b. Minneapolis? _____

7. Why did the lines run to the Lakes?

8. As time went on, what areas beyond the downtown areas would be the first to be developed?

9. How did the pattern of streetcar lines cause the growth of the central business districts?

10. Which areas of Minneapolis and St. Paul are the best served by the streetcar lines?
(Determine the level of service by comparing miles of track per area, distances between tracks, number of cross connect track, and number of intersections of tracks).

11. Can this streetcar map help us to explain and understand the future development of the Twin Cities? How?

1919 – Minnesota State Roads

1. Go back and look at the 1886 Official Railroad Map of Minnesota. How is this State Road map similar to that map? How is it different? What would explain these similarities and differences?
2. Why do you think farmers were strong advocates for good roads?
3. The road map was made three decades after the railroad map. What are the biggest changes that occurred in the pattern of towns and transportation systems in those three decades?

1921

The Yellowstone Trail Touring Service: Map No. 9, Minnesota

1. Who were the primary users of the road system?
2. Why were some roadways poorly made and maintained, while others were of better quality?
3. During which season were the roads best to use?
4. The major route of the Yellowstone Trail ran in which directions? _____
How do you know this was the major route?
5. What major highway follows the major route of the Yellowstone Trail Company today?
6. How would this map help in planning to transport goods and/or people more than any of the other previous maps?
7. What are the advantages of a named trail system over a system of numbered state highways?
8. Why has the custom of naming “trails” or “highways” faded into history?
9. Are there any named highways in your community? Please identify.
10. What is the rationale for naming highways today?

1928 – The Northland Bus Routes: The Road to Pleasure . . .

1. What major Minnesota city is not on this map?
2. What cities have the most bus lines going to and from them? What does this tell us about those cities?
3. How can this map help us to explain the urban development of Minnesota?
4. Looking at all aspects of the map, why would places be on this system?
 - a. Bemidji and Brainerd
 - b. Virginia/the Iron Range and Grand Rapids
5. What was the main purpose of this map?

Concluding Questions

1. In chronological order, list the major modes of transportation used in Minnesota from 1688 – 1928.

