UNIT 3: MIDDLE SCHOOL – UNITED STATES HISTORY

CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION: INDIAN TREATIES: GOALS AND EFFECTS

Level 1

Instructional Support Materials

Chief Joseph Newsletter and Reflection Questions Chief Joseph Newsletter and Reflection Questions (Spanish Language Version)

Learning Goals

By the end of Level One, students will understand:

- The Nez Perce encounter with Europeans
- Factors that led to the Walla Walla Treaty
- The impact and aftermath of the treaty times
- Why Chief Joseph is such a respected tribal leader

TIME: 1 class period

Teacher Preparation

- Review article and reflection questions
- Copy a classroom set of maps, article and reflection questions

Learning Activities

Day 1: Overview

Instruct students that they will be exploring the relationship between the Nez Perce and the US Government beginning with first contact and ending with the placement of Chief Joseph on a reservation in Eastern Washington State. Students will be focusing their attention on the erosion of Nez Perce sovereignty through their continuing relationship with the US government. First, have students look at the maps located here **(NOTE: map links below to be updated)**:

- 1. http://www.wallowanezperce.org/Map%200f%20Nez%20Perce%20Trail.html
- http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/fed-indian-policy/images/territorymap-01.jpg
- 3. http://www.nww.usace.army.mil/dworshak/reports/final_eis/map6.jpg
- 4. http://www.windriverhistory.org/exhibits/chiefjoseph/images/p159map.jpg

Ask students questions about what they see, for example:

- 1. Where did the Nez Perce live prior to their containment on reservations?
- 2. Where were Nez Perce reservations?
- 3. How much land did the Nez Perce lose when placed on reservation lands?
- 4. Imagine your room shrunk to one tenth its current size how do you think you would react?

These questions are meant to get students thinking about how the Nez Perce must have felt when experiencing the constant eroding of their homelands, natural resources, and hunting and fishing grounds. Students should notice the drastic reduction from the Nez Perce's historic homelands, to the 1855 reservation border, the 1863 reservation border and, finally, the Nez Perce reservation lands in Oklahoma shown in 1885.

Once you have discussed the territory maps, have students read the Chief Joseph Newsletter and answer the accompanying questions to check for understanding. Discuss student answers as a group.

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