

Louisiana Purchase





Directions

Prior to the lesson –

- ☐ Print the **Anticipation Guides**, readings, **Doodle Notes™**, **Question and Answer Cards**, and the **Somebody Wanted...** summary handout. Make copies according to the number of students you teach. You do not need to copy a set of the readings for each student unless you wish for them to mark the text with highlighting, etc.
- ☐ **Prepare your materials.**
 - Decide if you want the Q&A cards to be used whole group or with a partner. Make copies on cardstock and cut out.
- ☐ If you wish to use **Google Slides™**, the link is located on another page in the directions.

Day of the lesson –

1. This lesson is designed for your students to learn about the Louisiana Purchase and its impact on the United States.
2. As a preview, pass out the **Anticipation Guide** with questions on the Louisiana Purchase. Discuss with your students which statements they think are true.
3. Place the students with a partner. Pass out the **reading** and ask your students to read the information with a partner and highlight key information. When you students have finished the reading, they can complete their **Doodle Notes™**.
4. When you have checked their answers on their notes, conduct the **Q&A activity**. Give each student one card and ask them to find their matching partner. Or give a set of Q&A cards for a partner group to match.
5. As an extension activity, I have included a **Somebody Wanted...** summary handout.



Do you want a more active preview? Pass out the Q&A questions first to see how many they can get right before they read.

Louisiana Purchase

Direction: Check the statements that you think are true.

- ☐ The United States has always been the same since it was founded.
- ☐ Every president of the United States has followed the Constitution exactly as it was written.
- ☐ When the United States grew, people were always happy.
- ☐ The Louisiana Purchase doubled the size of the United States in 1803.
- ☐ Once the Louisiana Territory was purchased, Americans stopped moving west.
- ☐ The Louisiana Purchase was rich in natural resources.
- ☐ The Louisiana Purchase provided a water route from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean.
- ☐ People were sent to explore the Louisiana territory after it was purchased.
- ☐ Thomas Jefferson purchased the Louisiana Territory from the French.



United States

Louisiana Purchase

PREVIEW

The territory west of the new United States of America was known as Louisiana. This land was claimed by the French. In 1800, Napoleon Bonaparte, the emperor of France, wanted French citizens to settle in Louisiana. Having the French so close to the United States worried President Thomas Jefferson. American farmers used the Mississippi River to transport their crops to New Orleans, a port city in Louisiana. Sending their products to be sold at markets by boat was cheaper than transporting them by wagons over the Appalachian Mountains. If the French closed the port of New Orleans to American shipping, the American economy would suffer.

Thomas Jefferson convinced Congress to approve \$2,000,000 to offer to Napoleon Bonaparte to buy the city of New Orleans.

France was at war with Great Britain and needed money. To everyone's surprise, France agreed to sell the entire Louisiana territory for \$15,000,000. But Thomas Jefferson had a dilemma. The Constitution did not include any directions for how to purchase land from a foreign country.



Jefferson believed in following the Constitution exactly. Despite his beliefs, Jefferson made a less than strict interpretation of the Constitution and said that the purchase was allowed by implied powers for the good of the country. Congress approved the Louisiana Purchase.

PREVIEW

Vocabulary

implied powers: political powers given to the United States government that are not clearly stated in the Constitution



The Louisiana Purchase

Who was involved with the Louisiana Purchase?

PREVIEW

What was the Louisiana Purchase?

Where was the Louisiana Purchase?

When was the Louisiana Purchase?

Why was the Louisiana Territory purchased?

PREVIEW



Directions: copy these questions onto card stock and cut them out. Give each student one card and ask them to find their matching partner. Or give a set of Q&A cards for a partner group to match.

Q: What was the territory west of the new United States of America called?

A: The territory west of the new United States of America was called Louisiana.

Q: Who originally claimed the land of Louisiana?

A: The land of Louisiana was originally claimed by the French.

Q: Why did President Thomas Jefferson worry about having the French so close to the U.S.?

A: President Thomas Jefferson worried about having the French so close to the U.S. because he was concerned that they might close the port of New Orleans to American shipping.

Q: How did American farmers use the Mississippi River?

A: American farmers used the Mississippi River to transport their crops to New Orleans, a port in Louisiana.

Q: Why was sending their products by boat to New Orleans important for American farmers?

A: Sending their products to be sold at markets in New Orleans by boat was important for American farmers because it was cheaper than transporting them by wagons over the Appalachian Mountains.

Q: How much did France offer to sell the entire Louisiana Territory for?

A: France offered to sell the entire Louisiana Territory for \$15,000,000.

Q: What dilemma did Thomas Jefferson face even though France offered to sell the entire Louisiana Territory?

A: Thomas Jefferson had a dilemma because the Constitution had no express instructions on how to purchase land from a foreign country.

Q: How did Thomas Jefferson justify the Louisiana Purchase in terms of the Constitution?

A: Thomas Jefferson justified the Louisiana purchase by saying that it was allowed by implied powers for the good of the country.

Somebody Wanted...

Somebody...

PREVIEW

somewhere...

wanted...

but...

PREVIEW

so they...

then...

and so...

SUMMARY:

PREVIEW



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About the Author

What do I believe about Social Studies instruction?

- ✓ Students need to be engaged to learn.
-Schlechty's *Design Qualities of engagement*
- ✓ History can be fun and rigorous at the same time.
-Bower's *Bring Learning Alive!*
- ✓ All students can learn – we just need to support them in different ways.
-Seidnitz's *Seven Steps*
- ✓ Kids need to continuously review content through games and engaging activities.
-Himmele's *Total Participation Techniques*
- ✓ Writing is essential for learning, not just assessment.
-Daniels' *Content Area Writing*
- ✓ Vocabulary instruction must be intentional and engaging.
-Marzano *Academic Vocabulary*
- ✓ History should not be trivial pursuit – dig deeper and teach with essential questions and enduring understandings.
-Wiggins & McTighe *Essential Questions*
- ✓ Students are social – purposeful talk is crucial to learning.
-Walsh *Quality Questioning*
- ✓ Students need to read in Social Studies – reading informational text cannot be mastered without constant practice.
-Kinsella's *Considerate Text*
- ✓ "Soft skills" of collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and creativity are essential to future success in the job market.
-Muir *Reasons Millennials Get Fired*
- ✓ The best way to improve reading comprehension and scores, is to focus on building knowledge through Social Studies instruction.
-Wexler *The Knowledge Gap*



Dawn Viñas has served in education for over a quarter of a century.

Dawn earned her Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Texas A&M University. In her education journey, she was shaped by her various roles as a classroom teacher, instructional coach, curriculum coordinator, professional development trainer, university professor, and teacher-author. Dawn has provided Social Studies professional development for over 20 years to more than 10,000 teachers from Alaska to Florida. In 2015, Dawn started Social Studies Success® with the mission to revolutionize social studies instruction. With a goal of improving instruction, Dawn is currently providing consulting, classroom resources, and professional development services to several school districts across the state of Texas. Do you have a question, or would you like to purchase a license for your district? You can reach Dawn [here](#).

