

## **DAY 3**

# **Introductory Background Information**



### **ESSENTIAL QUESTION:**

How do people, environment and events cause change and influence the design of towns and cities?

### **HISTORY INQUIRY ESSENTIAL QUESTION:**

How do places grow and change?

### **FOCUS QUESTION:**

What is a solution to the problems in Mediana City?

### ***Objective***

Students will do a close read of the letter from the California Orange Growers Association (**Day3 HO#1**) and develop project criteria.

### ***Lesson Overview***

Students will read closely and discuss the letter and use what the text says explicitly and implicitly to inform the project that they will be completing.

## Standards

### ***ELA Common Core State Standards***

**RI.4.1:** Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

**RI.4.2:** Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.

**RI.4.8:** Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text.

**RF.4.4a.c:** Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

**W.4.8:** Gather relevant information from print sources; take notes, paraphrase and categorize information, and provide a list of sources.

**SL.4.1:** Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

**SL.4.2:** Paraphrase portions of a text read aloud in diverse media and formats.

**SL.4.3:** Identify the reasons and evidence a speaker or media source provides to support particular points.

**L.4.1:** Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking

### ***Introduction***

- Show students the letter received from the California Orange Growers Association. (**Teacher Resource 1**) Read aloud to the class.

### ***Analysis Activity***

- Students will work in groups to discuss the letter from the Orange Growers Association using discussion questions provided in Letter Discussion Questions (**Student Handout 1**)
- Review questions in a whole class discussion
- Create a class criteria chart for the project including the three conditions required by the Orange Growers Association
- Review the three properties that are available.

### ***Conclusion***

**Teacher will say:**

- Over the next weeks you will be learning about and designing all the things necessary to build a safe and fun park for Mediana City. You must include the three requirements the California Orange Growers mentioned in their letter and convince the City Council that your plan for the park is the best. The designs must be ready to submit to the City Council by May \_\_\_\_.

**Journal Entry:**

- What is a solution to the problem?
- What will you need to do in order to make the solution a success?
- What are the next steps?

**Next Lesson:**

**Please begin the Day 3 Science lesson after completing this introductory lesson.**

## **California Orange Growers Association Letter Discussion Questions**

Read the letter from the California Orange Grower's Association aloud to the class. Use the following discussion questions to guide the understanding of the proposal for the new park.

1. Who is sponsoring this project?
2. What are you being asked to do? Cite evidence from the letter.
3. What will the California Orange Growers Association supply? Cite evidence from the letter.
4. What must be included in your proposal?
5. How long do you have to complete this proposal?
6. Who will choose the best proposal?
7. How will they make their choice?
8. What do you think the California Orange Growers Association will be looking for in the best proposal? Cite evidence from the text of the letter.
9. How will you convince the Association to choose your proposal?



May \_\_\_\_, 2015

Dear \_\_\_\_\_'s Class

Members of our California Orange Growers Association watched the City Council meeting held in Mediana City yesterday. We heard you describe the multiple problems with the city's one and only park. We want to help you solve the problems.

The California Orange Growers Association will donate one piece of land the size of your playground to the community of Mediana City for a new park. You will have three different properties from which to choose. You will decide which piece of land is best for your park.

We want this piece of land to be the best park possible for nine-year-olds and their friends. Who better to design the best possible park for kids, but kids!

We are inviting groups of fourth grade students to design the best park for kids. Think about what **your group** would want in a fun city park.

There are 3 requirements for this new park:

- Plant and maintain at least one navel orange tree in the park
- Commemorate the history of Mediana City in the park
- Design a well-lit permanent structure for the park

Working with your group, you will have twenty days to research, investigate, and design a model and floor plan of your park. Then your group will plan and deliver a presentation to the Mediana City Council on May \_\_\_\_, 2015, that convinces the City Council your plan is the best one to implement for the community.

Sincerely yours,

The California Orange Growers Association