

Experiential Activity: N.M. History Timeline

Summary: Students create a human timeline that connects to the N.M. History Museum's (NMHM) Historical Timeline Worksheet they will fill out. One group of students is given cards with historical periods and a second group is given cards with key events in New Mexico history. Each group arranges itself chronologically and then the educator helps the students who are representing events to place themselves in the correct historical periods.

Duration: 30-60 minutes, can be adjusted

Audience: 3rd grade students

Materials and Supplies:

- A space for students to move around in- at least 20x20 feet
- Historical Period and Event Cards (formatted cards at the end of this document are ready to print)
- Historical Timeline Worksheets ([print from this link](#))
- Optional: Mini-museum (objects or photos from each time period with text panels)

Set-up

- 1 table with Historical Period/Event cards and worksheets
- Optional: 2 tables with Mini-museum

Directions:

1. Hand-out Timeline Worksheets to all students
2. Divide students into two groups, pass out:
 - Group 1: 5 Historical Period Cards
 - Group 2: Event Cards (if you have a big group, add more events that are relevant to what you are teaching)
3. Have each group stand on either side of the room
4. Describe the Timeline Worksheet
 - Starts with First Peoples Period and each column is a different period in history
 - Ask students to find the Historical Period or the date of the Event on their card, then guess which Historical period it is in on the Timeline Worksheet.
5. Students in each group arrange themselves chronologically (describe what this word means) using their Timeline Worksheet as a reference. When they are done, check to see if they are in the right order (use the list of Historical Periods and Events on the next page as a reference.)
6. Next facilitate each student with an Event Card moving into the right Historical Period. (Optional: connect historical periods/events to the objects in the Mini-museum.)

List of Historical Periods and Events for teacher reference

FIRST PEOPLES PERIOD

Migration and Settlement of Native Peoples

Extra events: Domestication of Maize (corn) Southern Mexico over 10,000 years ago

SPANISH PERIOD

1540 1st Contact between Native People and Spanish Conquistadores

1680 Pueblo Revolt

1692 Spanish Recolonization of New Mexico

MEXICAN PERIOD

1821 Mexican Independence from Spain

1821 Santa Fe Trail

TERRITORIAL PERIOD

1848 U.S. Gains N.M. Territory

Trains come to NM

STATEHOOD PERIOD

1912 Statehood

1914 World War I (WWI)

1920 Women's Vote

21st CENTURY PERIOD

1929 Depression

1939 World War II (WWII)

1954 Civil Rights Movements

1991 World Wide Web

2019 COVID Pandemic

** Feel free to add any events that you think would be relevant to what you are teaching, or that the students would relate to in the 21st Century.

If you set up the Mini-museum, you can have students choose objects, put them in the correct historical period and answer the questions in the rows. Demonstrate how to fill out a column. Ask them to fill in as many columns as they can.

Another option: Students can choose from different virtual tours on the New Mexico History Museum website (<https://nmhistorymuseum.org/exhibitions/virtual-tours/>), and fill out the Timeline Worksheets as a history treasure hunt type of project.

FIRST PEOPLES PERIOD

SPANISH PERIOD

MEXICAN PERIOD

TERRITORIAL PERIOD

STATEHOOD PERIOD

21st CENTURY PERIOD

Migration and Settlement of Native Peoples

**Domestication of
Maize (corn) in
Southern Mexico over
10,000 years ago**

1540

**1st Contact between
Native People and
Spanish
Conquistadores**

1680

Pueblo Revolt

1692

Spanish

Recolonization of

New Mexico

1821

**Mexican
Independence
from Spain**

1821

Santa Fe Trail

1848

U.S. Gains

N.M. Territory

1881

**Trains come
to New Mexico**

1912

Statehood

1914

World War I

(WWI)

1920

Women's Vote

1929 Depression

1939
World War I
(WWII)

1954
Civil Rights
Movements

1991

World Wide Web

2019

COVID Pandemic