

Title: *Folklife for Eighth Grade*

Grade Level: Eighth Grade

Curriculum Areas: Social Studies, Language Arts

Purpose / Objective:

Students view a list of folk life topics as possible choices for the Georgia eighth grade social science fair.

Procedure / Activities:

1. Each student views a list of topics and chooses four that appeal to him/her. These need to be numbered one through four, with one being the first choice.
2. Each student writes four brief explanations about the reasons for choosing those particular topics.
3. Students gather into groups of three or four and share their choices and reasons. The others in the group may offer suggestions of ways to pursue a particular topic.

Additional Activities:

N/A

Time Required: 50 minutes

Materials:

1. Topic list
2. Writing supplies—pen, pencil, paper

Additional References:

See attached topic list

Lesson Plan Provided By: Joan K. Griffin
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Folklife Topics

- Hometown / community festival
- Country store / ethnic markets
- Gospel sings

- Wiregrass ecosystem
- Seasonal tradition in family / community
- Native Americans in Georgia
- Quilting bees
- Barn styles / raisings
- Tapping trees for turpentine
- Fish camps
- Fish traps and lures
- Building wooden boats
- Medicinal plants
- Basketry
- Weaving textiles
- Handmade instruments
- Specialty foods like mayhaw jelly or fried green tomatoes
- Freight trains and lines
- Cane squeezing
- Tobacco growing, curing then and now, and auctioning
- Labor force changes
- Decorative arts like carving or tatting
- Reunions
- Turkey shoots
- Crops grown then and now
- Landscape of forest, savannah, and sandy bottom



- Family tree