

ANGOON BOMBARDMENT

Lesson Plan for "The Alaska Myth" Podcast, Episode 1

Grade Level: Adapt for
9th - 12th grades

Subject: Social Studies /
Alaska Studies / History

Topic: The 1882 US Navy
Bombardment of Angoon

Objectives and Goals

Students will:

- Understand the history of the bombardment of Angoon and its gravity / impact
- Explore how the bombardment of Angoon relates to the idea of "Manifest Destiny"

Materials

[The Alaska Myth podcast episode 1, "The Problem with the Last Frontier"](#) (please see "trigger warning" in the "activities" section)

The student produced ["Angoon Bombardment" film](#)

Activities:

Opening activity: Students write what they think "Manifest Destiny" means. Ask for volunteers to share. Explain the concept if needed. Tell them you will explore this concept today.

Trigger warning: the content in the podcast includes violence and death, specifically of children, that took place during the bombardment. Be sensitive to your students before playing this for them and make sure they are prepared.

Play "The Problem with the Last Frontier" from 20:09 - 27:16 minutes (~7 minutes)

Watch student produced "Angoon Bombardment" (~1 minute)

Have students work in pairs to discuss 1) what reactions did you have, and why? and 2) How would you describe the Angoon bombardment to someone who has never heard of it? & 3) How does the bombardment of Angoon relate to the idea of "Manifest Destiny"?

Each pair shares one "aha" moment they had during their discussion.

Close-out: Each student writes what manifest destiny is in their own words and can choose to share.

Assessments

-Collect student writing about how they define manifest destiny at the beginning and end of class to see if their understanding changed, and if they understand the concept.

-Based on partner share-out about "aha" moments, observe if they have an understanding of the event and the impact of it. Use this as an opportunity to provide feedback as this may be something most of them are learning about for the first time.