

Lesson Plan: Quiltin' Bee & Hoedown!

Grade level(s): AP English, 11 & 12

Topic: Plot and themes in Willa Cather's *O! Pioneers*

Objective(s): Share highlights and personal perceptions of the most important plot elements and themes in the novel.

Big6 Skills: Task Definition / Location and Access / Use of Information / Synthesis / Evaluation

Materials Required: One 12" by 12" piece of colored paper (provided by instructor); various craft materials to be determined by the student.

Time Required: One week is offered for completing the project

Description of activities: Each student will be given a section of the book (instructor will determine how the book will be divided, based on how many in this year's class. Students will choose an important plot element or theme expressed in that section of the novel and create a "quilt block" to demonstrate it. At the same time, each student will sign up to bring a dish for the "hoedown" portion of the extended class period ("down-home country food such as fried chicken, cornbread, potato salad, brownies, etc.). On presentation day, students will present in the order of their portion of the novel, so that the story is retold through the quilt, which is put together (with tape against a blank wall) as class time progresses.

Assessment: 50 pts: participation, quality of quilt block, and presentation.

Lesson by: One week.



Notice girls' aprons & fellows' sleeve garters.