

Oregon's Landmark Legislation Activity/Program Ideas

- Book Panel Discussion — read and discuss the following:
 - *Where the Land & Water Meet* by Nancy Langston
 - Steve Duin, column *The Oregonian*, August 21, 2012 “The Elephant in Malheur Lake,” about Linda Beck, fish biologist and the carp in the lake
- Discussion: Faced with the question (choose any legislative landmark law) “How Would You Respond?”
- Readers’ Theater:

To develop a Readers' Theater activity, first come up with a some themes to build the Readers’ Theater around. Then, speak with a few local teachers and get their feedback on these themes. Choose the one that seems to fit best with the exhibit panels and would augment their curriculum. Then, find a group of interested volunteers to work with you in pairs to look up some scripts for the age levels you want to target (try using scriptsforschools.com for ideas). Look at length, format, verbiage, etc. Also, decide what kind of tone you want to have — serious or humorous? Then, the volunteers can get their creative juices flowing and write scripts (each about 5 minutes) that deal with the chosen theme and come up with questions for a discussion at the end of the play. See [this](#) script as an example. Legislative Landmarks might lend itself to dressing up as the characters who either made the legislation or who benefitted from it. Ask yourself what kind of experience you want the students to come away with from the exhibit, and work backwards from there.
- Invite a city planner to speak on land use planning.
- Discuss local reaction to legislation.
- Learn about the history of a chosen legislative landmark and then discuss contemporary applications
- Research local state representatives and senators who were in office at the time the legislation passed and what their roles were. Also discuss local newspaper journalists and political cartoonists, as well as their work about the legislation.
- Lead an activity — Editorial Cartoons by Kids!
- Road Trip Theme:
 - Where do you go on vacation?
 - How do you get there?
 - Energy and gas use activity
- Timber Activities:
 - Increment bore – count rings, how much is it worth in board feet
 - Contest: teach kids using recycled materials for art & crafts
 - Found art projects
- Develop programs for in-service days when kids aren’t in school.
- Children Story Times — find books on the life cycle of forests, bikes, recycling.