

The Chicago River's Journey through Time

Chicago River Classroom Activity

Summary

Students will create a book, which shows the changes in the Chicago River throughout time.

This lesson should be used as a post-lesson after a Chicago River classroom program.

Procedure

- ◆ Tell the students that they will be creating their own book titled: *The Chicago River's Story*.
- ◆ Give each student two pieces of paper. Tell them to fold each piece in half. Have the students put one piece of folded paper inside the other so that it looks like book pages.
- ◆ Have the students fill their book with the following drawings (they should draw on both sides of each "page" just like a real book). If students can write, have them write a sentence on each page.
 - ◆ **Front cover:** Cover for their book.
 - ◆ **Page 1:** How they think the Chicago River looked during Flying Heron's time.
 - ◆ **Page 2:** How they think the Chicago River looked during Christopher's time.
 - ◆ **Page 3:** How they think the Chicago River looks today (or how it really looks if they've seen it).
 - ◆ **Page 4:** How they hope the Chicago River looks when they are 80 years old.
- ◆ As students are making their books, go around the room and fasten their books together with two paper fasteners.
- ◆ Select students to read or tell their story to the class.

Grade Level: K – 2nd

Duration: One class period

Objectives:

1. Students will demonstrate their understanding of the major historical changes in the Chicago River.

Materials:

- ◆ Paper (two pieces per student)
- ◆ Crayons and markers (for the class to share)
- ◆ Paper fasteners (two per student)

Standards:

16.A.1a, 16.A.1b, 16.E.1