

A K-12 Educational Guide to Understanding Fort Orange and the Colonial Dutch



Fort Orange Educational Guide: Online Teacher Resource

<http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/fort-orange-educational-guide>



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Fort Orange Educational Guide

Video Interviews about Fort Orange

Introduction to the Fort Orange Educational Guide

Created for teachers of the 4th and 7th grades, this educational guide provides five lessons that introduce students to Fort Orange and the world of New Netherland. Studying New Netherland—its foundation, purpose, and the complex dynamics of its diverse population— is essential to students' understanding of the



Sample Lesson



Lesson 3: Archaeology of Fort Orange

How does archaeology help us describe a place that no longer exists?

- **Historical Background:** Descriptions of Fort Orange
- **Setting the Stage:** Sourcing a Document, Catalina Trico's Description of Fort Orange
- **Activity #1:** Where was Fort Orange located?
- **Activity #2:** How does archaeology help us describe a place that no longer exists?
- **Activity #3:** What did Fort Orange look like?
- **Summative Assessment:** Determining the reliability of information

[Lesson 3: Slide Presentation and Worksheet \(Combined\) via Google Slides](#)

[Lesson 3: Slide Presentation](#) » [Link to Google Slides](#) [Lesson 3: Student Worksheet](#) » [Link to Google Document](#)

» [Download PDF \(400KB\) Lesson 3: Answer Key](#) » [Link to Google Document](#) [Lesson 3: VIDEO 1 Len Tantillo: Painting History](#) [Lesson 3: VIDEO 2 Len Tantillo: Recreating Fort Orange](#) [Lesson 3: VIDEO 3 Paul Huey: Uncovering Fort Orange](#) [Lesson 3: VIDEO 4 Paul Huey & Joe McEvoy: Artifacts](#) [Lesson 3: VIDEO 5 Paul Huey: Locating Fort Orange](#)

There are five lessons included in the Education Guide.

1. Native American Daily Life before Dutch Arrival
2. Trade with Fort Orange
3. Archaeology of Fort Orange
4. Economic & Political Tensions among the Dutch
5. Riches of Global Commerce at Fort Orange



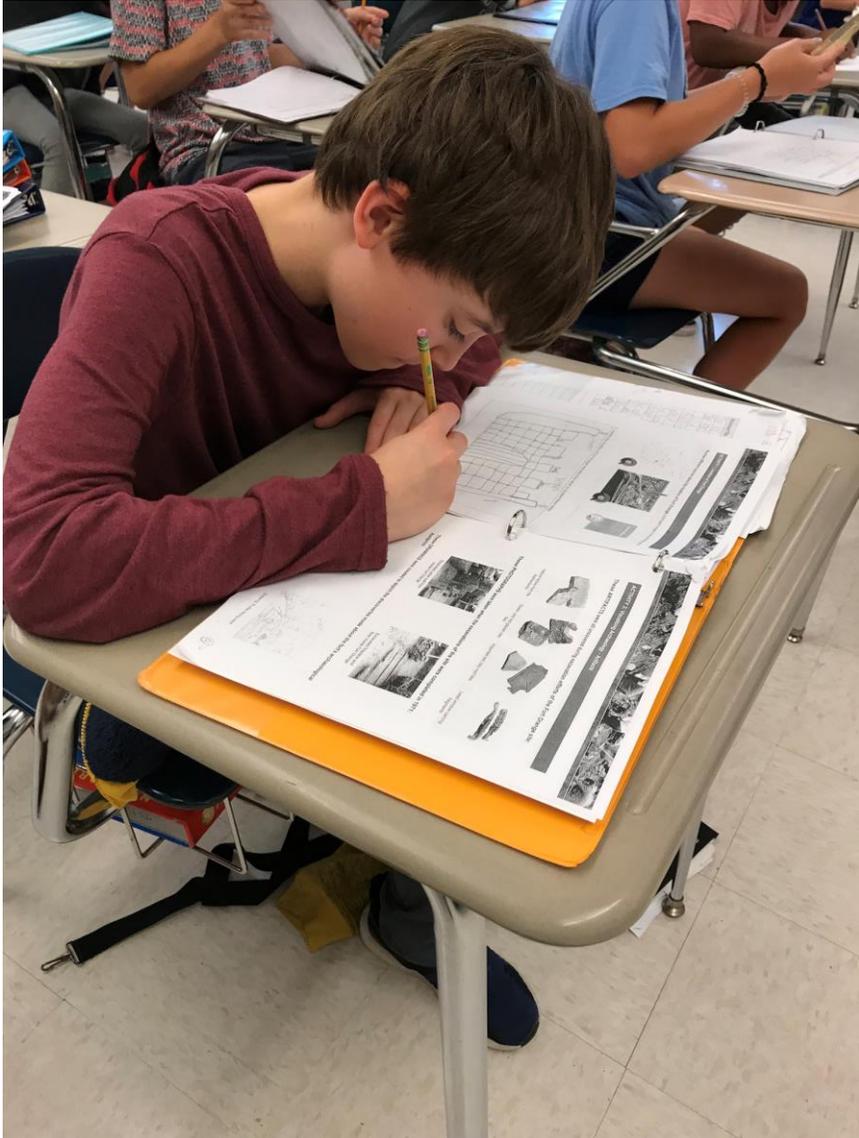
In the Classroom



Kelyn helped develop the Fort Orange Educational Guide and then taught the Archaeology Lesson to her 7th grade class.



Students at Work

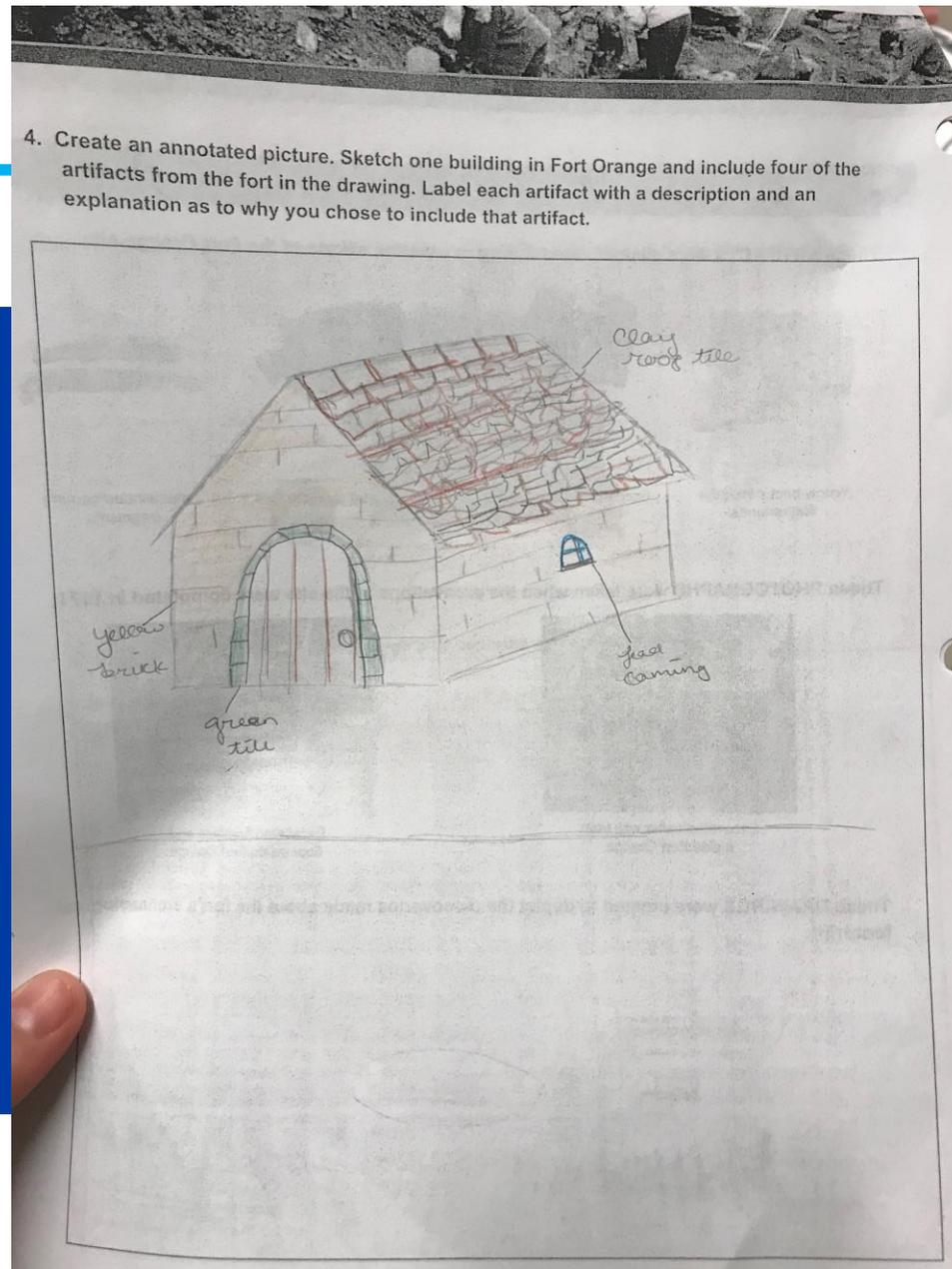


Kelyn invited staff from the State Museum into her classroom to observe the lesson and share some of the artifacts with the students.



Student Answer

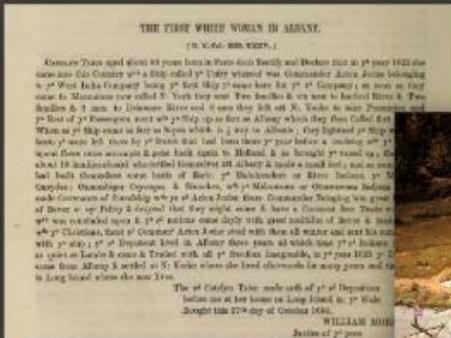
This is an example of a student's response to the prompt asking them to draw a building from Fort Orange and label the items that we have as artifacts.



Assessment



Summative Assessment: Types of Evidence



6. What evidence provides the best information about what Fort Orange might have looked like in the 1600s? Why are certain types of evidence better than other evidence? List all the types of evidence from this lesson and rate each type based on bias, validity, and accuracy. Which evidence do you think is the most reliable?



Students were asked to consider which evidence provides the most reliable information about what Fort Orange might have looked like in the 1600s.



Student Answers

Kelyn has provided four examples of student answers to the summative assessment question.

What evidence provides the best information about what Fort Orange might have looked like in the 1600s?

→ Be sure to include:

- Why some evidence better than others.
- Which evidence is the most reliable.

Use the outline below to plan your paragraph. Remember, a good paragraph has 6–8 sentences and uses proper grammar, capitalization, and punctuation.

Student 1:

The best evidence to show what Fort Orange may have looked like in the 1600s was the photographs. The photographs taken at Fort Orange show us how the Dutch set up their fort. The images shown were directly taken from the site and there is no exaggeration. The photographs are visual sources and leave little room for lying. In conclusion, this shows the photographs is the most reliable piece of evidence.

Student 2:

The museum artifacts and the pictures are the best evidence to find out what Fort Orange may have looked like in the 1600's. These artifacts show the original site of Fort Orange. The artifacts are physical proof of what was happening there. Unlike the primary source from Catelyn Trico, the artifacts and pictures were dug up and found at the original site. The artifacts and pictures do not have the ability to lose their memory or lie. This makes them the strongest piece of evidence. Those are the reasons the museum artifacts and pictures are reliable.

Student 3:

The evidence that provides the best information on what Fort Orange may have looked like is the painting. The artist used lots of reliable information when painting *Fort Orange, 1635*. Len Tantillo talked to other historians and archaeologists who were studying Fort Orange. The artist painted the painting 24 different times to make sure it was accurate. Every time he got more evidence he modified his artwork to corroborate with his sources. This makes his work the best possible source. Therefore, Len Tantillo worked hard to make sure his painting was reliable and accurate.

Student 4:

The museum artifacts provide the best information about what Fort Orange might have looked like in the 1600s. The artifacts prove what was actually at the Fort Orange site. The tiles and bricks show that the area was more advanced than Catelyn Trico's source explains. Also, the museum artifacts are more reliable because a primary source could be based on lies or opinions. Furthermore, the artifacts are physical evidence that cannot be faked. As a result the museum artifacts are more reliable than Catelyn's response about Fort Orange.



THANK YOU!

