

4.3 Evolution of Grunge and Snowboarding

Exhibit Title: Snowboarding

Core Connection

Fourth Grade Language Arts Standard 6: Vocabulary - Students learn and use grade level vocabulary to increase understanding and read fluently.

Fourth Grade Language Arts Standard 7: Comprehension - Students understand, interpret, and analyze narrative and informational grade level text.

Summary: Grunge is a term with several meanings and characteristics. It is often associated with snowboarding. On their visit to the museum, students will observe a section that shows examples of snowboarding and grunge. This lesson will introduce the definitions and history of grunge and snowboarding to the students and allow them to evaluate and apply the information to what they see in winter sports.

Lesson Learning Objectives:

1. Students will access prior knowledge of the term "Grunge."
2. Students will read a brief description of the evolution of grunge and snowboarding and write down new information.
3. Students will read the selection and analyze the purpose of the piece.
4. Students will create a picture showing what they think a snowboarder looks like dressed in grunge and compare their prediction to what they see at the museum.
5. Students will predict the future of snowboarding in Utah.

Materials: "Evolution of Grunge and Snowboarding" worksheet for each student, colored pencils or crayons

Time Approximate: 35 minutes

Instructions:

Prior to your visit

1. Inform students that when they visit the Alf Engen Ski Museum and will see a section highlighting snowboarding and grunge. Write the term "grunge" on the board and have students brainstorm what they think or know about the term. List their responses.
2. Have the students read the "Evolution of Grunge and Snowboarding" article and complete the questions on the worksheet.
3. Students will create their own short definition of grunge from what they learned in the reading. Have students compare their individual definitions with each other.
4. The students will then draw clothing that matches their definition of Grunge. Compare their pictures with other students. Collect the drawings.

Back in your classroom

1. Pass out the students' pictures of the clothing that they drew before their visit.
2. Have the students compare their pictures to what they saw at the museum. What were the likenesses and differences in the clothing, headgear, etc.?
3. Based on their reading and visit to the museum, have the students predict what they think will happen to snowboarding in Utah in the future.

THEN



Early 1970s Snowboarding Clothing

NOW



Present Day 'Grunge' Clothing

The Evolution of Grunge and Snowboarding



Grunge

Grunge has its roots in both Seattle, Washington and in the music world. It began as a combination of heavy metal and punk music during the early 1990s. This style of music soon became popular among teens. The music became known as "alternative" music. This movement soon spread across the United States and has stayed popular through the 1990s.

Grunge has also become associated with baggy and torn clothes, t-shirts with band names or sayings on them, different styles of hats, and skateboards and loud music. Some people even say Grunge has its own language. Followers of the Grunge Movement began to take their style of clothing and music to the mountains in the winter. Many of these people also took up snowboarding.

Snowboarding

Snowboarding is said to have started as early as 1929. M.J. "Jack" Burchett cut out a plank of plywood and tried to secure his feet to the wood with clothesline and horse reins. Thus, he developed one of the first "snowboards". The next big improvement in snowboards would not come until 1965.

In 1965, Sherman Poppen from Muskegon, Michigan invented "The Snurfer" as a toy for his daughter. He made the "Snurfer" by binding two skis together and putting a rope at the tips, so the rider could hold it and keep it steady. Four years later, Dimitrije Milovich started making snowboards. He came up with his idea after sliding down some hills on a cafeteria tray. His boards were a combination surfboard and skis. In 1972, Milovich started a company called "Winterstick." His kind of snowboard became known as a "Winterstick." Snowboarders today often call their boards a "Winterstick".

During the 1980s, snowboard designers began to use more ski technology as snowboards grew in popularity. New snowboard companies and magazines for snowboarders were started in the 1980s.

In 1998, snowboarding became an official Olympic winter sport in the Nagano, Japan Olympics. The popularity of snowboarding continues. In the year 2000, snowboarding was the fastest-growing sport in the United States (followed by skateboarding). Snowboarding parks are found at many ski resorts where snowboarders can practice their technical jumps and tricks.

The Evolution of Grunge and Snowboarding Worksheet

Write two facts that you have learned about grunge from this reading:

1. _____

2. _____

Write two facts that you have learned about snowboarding from this reading:

1. _____

2. _____

Why do you think that this article was written?

Write your own definition of Grunge. Limit it to two sentences.

Grunge: _____

Clothing:

When a person dressed in grunge hits the slopes, what do you think they wear?

Why do you think people wear grunge when snowboarding?

Use another sheet of paper for this part. Based on your definition, the reading, and your class discussion, draw or design grunge clothing that a snowboarder might wear. Make sure to include all the following: Snow pants, coat, gloves, and headgear. You may add anything extra to illustrate your definition.