

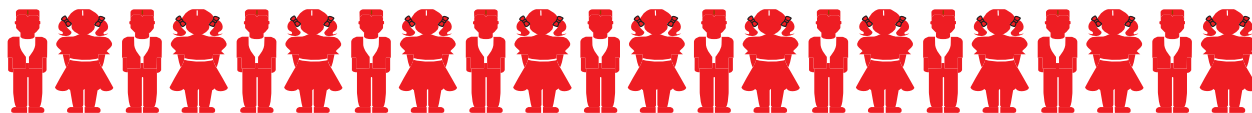


A Victorian Christmas

by

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*An integrated unit that uses "A Christmas Carol"
by Charles Dickens to enable students to
develop an indepth study of life in
Victorian times.*



A Victorian Christmas

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Teachers Resources:

Introduction	2
Suggestions for Using the Unit	2
Reading the Novel	3
Suggestions for Evaluation	3
Objectives	4
Skills	5
Student Tracking Sheets	7
Rubric for Evaluation	9
Evaluation Sheets	10
World Map	13
Venn Diagram	14
Character List & Plot Synopsis	15

Activity Cards:

Word Study	16
Reading	20
Elements of the Novel	23
Creative Writing	28
Research	32
Art	38
Music	42

Group Activities	44
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Whole Class Activities:

Drama	47
Art	48
Music	51
Mathematics	52
Movie Versions of <i>A Christmas Carol</i>	53

Answer Key	54
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Skills

<p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reading for pleasure - reading for comprehension - reading to gather information 	<p>Creative Writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - stating and justifying opinions - writing a poem - writing short stories - writing dialogue and scripts - writing a synopsis of a plot
<p>Vocabulary Development:</p> <p>identifying and using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - synonyms & antonyms - homonyms - suffixes & prefixes <p>creating a word search</p>	<p>Language and Grammar:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - writing in complete sentences. - identifying and using: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - nouns - verbs - adjectives & adverbs - punctuation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - use of quotation marks
<p>Elements of the Novel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - writing character studies - recognizing various literary devices - recognizing various types of conflict 	<p>Research Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - using a variety of sources to gather information - organizing and presenting information
<p>Art, Music & Drama:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - designing Christmas cards, tree decorations, clothes, printed wrapping paper - listening to and singing music of the time: Elgar, Strauss, Tchaikovsky - preparing a dramatic presentation of a section of the novel - researching poets and novelists of the time 	
<p>Mathematics & Science:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - researching inventions of the time: steam engine, railway locomotive, etc. - researching medical discoveries - compiling data in various forms: graphs, charts, tables - researching currencies of other countries and relating it to their own currency. 	
<p>Citizenship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - research the changing views of society concerning lives of poor / wealthy, men / women 	

A Victorian Christmas

Elements of the Novel - 3



The Setting

Write paragraphs to describe each of these places in the novel.

- 1) *Scrooge's home.*
- 2) *Bob Cratchit's home.*
- 3) *A street in the city of London.*

A Victorian Christmas

Elements of the Novel - 4



The Setting

Make a list of five things you learned about life in Victorian England from reading "A Christmas Carol."

Choose five things from your list and explain how these have changed since those times.

A Victorian Christmas

Creative Writing - 5



We know from the novel A Christmas Carol that Tiny Tim recovered from his illness.

Create a short story in which he plays the central character.

It can be an adventure or mystery story.

Remember that the setting cannot be changed from the original novel.

A Victorian Christmas

Creative Writing - 6



Pretend that you are Ebenezer Scrooge.

Tell the story of that special Christmas Eve in your own words.

Remember to include details of your feelings as the events took place.

You may illustrate the story if you wish.

Make a title page for your story.

A Victorian Christmas

Group Activity - 5

*You have read the novel or seen the movie
A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens.*



This is a work of fiction, but Charles Dickens made it quite clear that many true facts, particularly those concerning the differences between the lives of the poor and the wealthy, were included in the novel.

Make a list of the facts that you learned about life in Victorian times from those novel,

Record your findings on chart paper and present them to the class.

A Victorian Christmas

Group Activity - 6

We have learned from the novel that there were great differences between the lives of the rich and the poor in Victorian times.



There were also great differences in the treatment of males and females in all income groups.

Use the available resources to research this aspect of Victorian life.

Record your findings on chart paper and present your research to the class.

A Victorian Christmas

Whole Class Activity - B 2



Art - 2 - Character Portraits

1. *Divide the class into five groups.*
2. *Each group of students will create a large picture to illustrate a specific part of the novel.*
3. *The pictures should be developed on large sheets of mural paper. Any medium or combination of media may be used: paint, pastel, cut and paste, paper sculpture, etc.*
4. *Write the following titles on the board:*
 - a) *Scrooge and Jacob Marley's Ghost.*
 - b) *Scrooge and the Ghost of Christmas Past.*
 - c) *Scrooge and the Ghost of Christmas Present.*
 - d) *Scrooge and the Ghost of Christmas Future.*
 - e) *Christmas Day.*
5. *Each group chooses one of these to illustrate.*

You might want to assign the titles by lottery: write group numbers on pieces of paper, titles on other pieces of paper, then draw on from each pile. This method avoids arguments.
6. *The completed pictures should be given a title and displayed in chronological order.*