

Gridiron Glory

The Best of the Pro Football Hall of Fame

Educational Program Packet



Instructions:

Please use the following lesson to help prepare your students for a more meaningful and interactive educational experience.



Subject: Gridiron Glory

Lesson Title: Gridiron Glory: The Best of the Pro Football Hall of Fame

Goals/Objectives:

- Students will:
 - Gain an understanding of major events in American history that correlate to major events in the history of professional football.
 - Learn the basic facts of football that are considered milestones to fans.
 - Progress through the exhibit examining the (11) sections gleaned what they deem as ‘major’ events.
 - Determine what events in the section titled, “Let’s Hear for the Home Team,” are considered important to their city.

Common Core Standards Covered:

- Reading: Foundational Skills (Print Concepts, Phonological Awareness, Phonics, Fluency)
- Language (Vocabulary)
- Reading: Literature (Comprehension)
- Reading: Informational Text (Comprehension)

Methods/Procedures:

Prior to Visiting the Exhibition

- Students will be given the American History Timeline (page 4) and a pencil with an eraser if needed to record items, events and people in each decade that are considered significant in American History.
 - An example is given in the timeline with the landmark Supreme Court case and ruling of Plessy vs. Ferguson.
- Students should complete some preliminary research about the Gridiron Glory exhibition that they will be touring. Students can find more information about the exhibit at:
<http://www.profootballhof.com/exhibits/gridiron-glory.aspx>.



During the Visit

- Students will tour the Gridiron Glory exhibition.
- While touring, students will complete the Gridiron Glory Worksheet (page 5-6).
 - Students will describe artifacts/displays in each themed section of the exhibition.
 - Each of these artifacts/displays demonstrates a significant step in the growth of professional football as an important part of American culture.
 - Whenever possible, students should list dates that coincide with the artifact or display. These dates will be added to Pro Football History Timeline (page 7) when the students get back to the classroom.
- While not required, teachers may also have the students bring the Pro Football History Timeline to make sure students have artifact/display described for each decade.

After the Program

- Students will complete their Pro Football History Timeline by taking the artifacts/displays they described and placing them in the appropriate decade.
- Students will then lay the American History and Pro Football History timelines side by side and compare the events that took place.
- In a classroom discussion, students can bring up ideas of how events in American History could have impacted events in Pro Football History and vice versa. For example, students could compare the changes in race relations on and off the field during the tumultuous 1940s, 50s and 60s.
- After the class discussion, students will complete a one-page comparative essay of an event that took place on and off the field.
- Teachers could have the students present their comparison to the classroom. The presentation could include multimedia tools such as PowerPoint, web site, student wiki, etc.

Materials:

- American History Timeline (page 4)
- Gridiron Glory Worksheet (page 5-6)
- Pro Football History Timeline (page 7)
- Gridiron Glory website: <http://www.profootballhof.com/exhibits/gridiron-glory.aspx>
- Pencil
- Books, magazines, internet, and other informational resources for research
- Presentation Medium (PowerPoint, web site, student wiki, etc.)

Assessment:

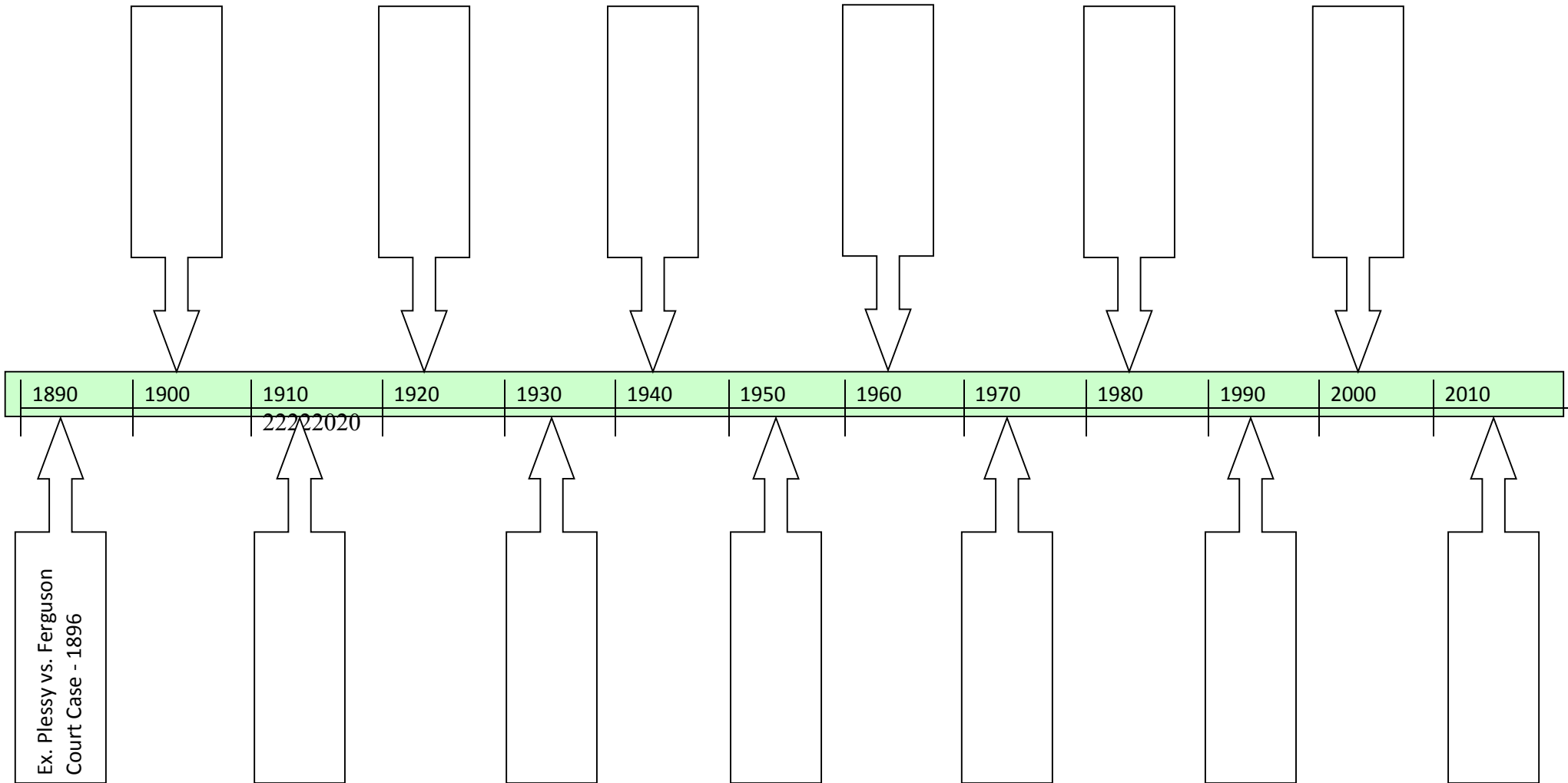
- Students will be assessed on their understanding of the events and their relationships through the completion of their timelines, classroom discussion, a comparative essay and the sharing of what they wrote.



American History Timeline

Timeline Instructions

Students should fill in the timeline below with moments in American History that they deem important to the growth of American culture.



Gridiron Glory: The Best of the Pro Football Hall of Fame Worksheet

What I See of Major Importance

List and or describe two artifacts/displays you see in each themed section that strikes your interest.

When possible, students should note the year of the artifact/display as this information will be included in the timeline to be completed back in the classroom.

Formation of the League

1.

2.

Pioneers of the League

1.

2.

Road to Equality

1.

2.

Dynasties

1.

2.



Science of the Game

- 1.
- 2.

Hometown Heroes

- 1.
- 2.

Records Are Made to be Broken

- 1.
- 2.

Champions Gallery

- 1.
- 2.

Football as a Way of Life

- 1.
- 2.

Let's Hear It for the Home Team

- 1.
- 2.



Pro Football History Timeline

Timeline Instructions

From the Gridiron Glory worksheet choose significant events or milestones in each decade to record on the timeline. Students should aim to have one event or milestone for each decade.

