



Transportation Through the Years

The following activity is suggested to engage scholars in learning the importance of Southwest Arizona and how history can be found throughout their studies in many subjects. It takes into account the 2018 Arizona Standards in its design.

The images are from the Cavalcade of History Collection, painted by artist Bill Ahrendt for *Arizona Highways* magazine. They are owned by the Tubac Historical Society, and are on loan to, and on display at, the Tubac Presidio State Historic Park.

Suggested time – Class 30 minutes, Homework 20 minutes

Objectives –

- Students will be exposed to means of transportation over time.
- Students will employ critical thinking and visual learning while observing objects.
- Students will use math, engineering and art to understand how advancements in technology help humanity.

Materials –

Each Student will get or need:

Read the Introduction to Transportation Through the Years.

Look at the Cavalcade of History select images.

Print and complete the Homework Assignment.

Instructions –

Read the Introduction to Transportation Through the Years page. When finished, look at the Cavalcade photographs and print and complete the Homework Assignment.

Transportation Through the Years

Introduction

People have walked, rode and flown. They did it to get where they wanted to go, and as time progressed they wanted to get there easier and faster. The same is true of the changes to travel in the Southwestern United States as in the rest of the world.

We show photographs of paintings here that represent some of the ways people travelled over time. Each method of travel has its advantages – and disadvantages. As you look at the photographs, think of the way people are travelling, more than what is happening in the scene. People used various means of transportation not only to move themselves, but also to ship “things,” food, clothes, tools, money, and many more items.

One man came to work in the southwest from what we consider today the Midwest. His name was Phocian (fo-see-on) Way. He travelled from Cincinnati, Ohio to work in the mines around Tubac. If you come to the Tubac Presidio State Historic Park and go into Otero Hall, you can see the kind of wagon he rode for part of the way and read his story.

To get to Tubac, Phocian Way first took a boat down the Ohio River, then the Mississippi River. His ship sailed into the Gulf of Mexico and landed in Texas. Then he and his fellow passengers took a wagon to Tubac. The trip was 2,527 miles long and took 34 days (he spent an additional six days visiting certain cities) in total; 9 days by boat, and 25 days by wagon. That was the fastest way for him to get to Tubac. If you were to drive from Cincinnati, Ohio to Tubac, Arizona today the distance would be about 1,824 miles and you could do it in 27 hours, not days.

Look at the photographs and think about what is good, and what is a problem with the means of transportation shown? For instance, how fast can you travel using the various ways? What parts wear out or need fuel to run?

Also, look at the images for what ways we now use that are not shown. Do the homework assignment and try to determine if there is a “best” way to travel.

Transportation Through the Years
Homework Assignment

1. Look at all the Cavalcade of History images and list the many different ways people are using transportation.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

2. What kind of transportation many people use today is not show?

3. Pick one of the pictures and look at it closely. Write out all that is happening in the image; who is in it, what are they doing, what time of day does it appear to be and why do you say that, where are they, and why do you think they are doing what they are doing?

4. People have also been in space, although it is not yet a common way to travel. If you could invent a new way to travel what would it be? Draw a picture of it and write a description of what it is and how it would work. Label all the parts like an engineer would do.

5. Using this chart, complete the questions below:

People walk 4 miles an hour.

Horses walk 4 miles an hour (mph).

Camels walk 3 miles an hour.

Paddlewheel boats go 5 miles per hour.

A stagecoach went 5 mph.

A steam locomotive in 1850 went 78 mph.

In 1910 the average speed

The average speed of a car today is 60 mph.

of a car was 20 mph.

The average speed of a plane is 575 mph.

The average speed of a rocket ship is 18,000 mph to reach orbit.

It took Phocian Way 34 days to go 2,527 miles.

What was his average speed? _____

If we went the same distance by car today how long would it take in hours? _____

Is there an advantage of taking a car to go from Cincinnati, Ohio to Tubac, Arizona over taking a train or an airplane? If yes, what is it?

Transportation Through the Years
Cavalcade of History select images, courtesy of the Tubac Historical Society.







