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CURRICULUM

SCAVENGER HUNT

INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE

This activity is inspired by and adapted from Rethinking School's "The U.S.-Mexico War Tea Party" found in *The Line Between Us* (Wisconsin: Rethinking Schools, 2006).

Spanning more than ten years, the Mexican Revolution is a complex historical event that involved numerous individuals. The scavenger hunt activity will introduce students to many of these individuals, and the various motivations of those individuals participating in or resisting the Revolution. Each student will take on the role of one individual involved in the Mexican Revolution. Then, using the provided questionnaire hand-out, students will move around the room interviewing classmates in order to appropriately answer all of the questions on the hand-out.

This activity can be used after a brief introduction to the Mexican Revolution. It does not require a great deal of background knowledge on the Revolution. Its purpose is to solidify knowledge and understanding of the individuals involved in the Mexican Revolution.

MATERIALS

- ☞ Scavenger hunt roles, cut up (one for each student in the class)
- ☞ Blank nametags (enough for every student in the class)
- ☞ Copies of “The Mexican Revolution Scavenger Hunt” hand-out for every student

PROCEDURE

4. Explain to students that they are going to do an activity about the Mexican Revolution. Distribute one nametag and one scavenger hunt role to each student in the class. There are only 16, so depending upon the number of students in the class, some students will be assigned the same historical character.
5. Have students fill out their nametags using the name of the individual they are assigned. Tell students that in this activity you would like each of them to attempt to become these people from history. Ask students to read their roles several times and to memorize as much of the information as possible. Encourage them to underline key points.
6. Distribute a copy of “The Mexican Revolution Scavenger Hunt” hand-out to each student. Explain their assignment: Students should circulate through the classroom, meeting other individuals from the Mexican Revolution. They should use the questions on the sheet as a guide to talk with others about the war and complete the questions as fully as possible. They must use a different individual to answer each of the 11 questions. Tell them that it’s not a race; the aim is for students to spend time hearing each other’s stories, not just hurriedly scribbling down answers to the different questions. It may be helpful to ask for a student volunteer to demonstrate with the teacher an encounter between two of the individuals, so that the rest of the class can sense the kind of interaction that is expected
7. Afterwards ask students to share some of their finding with the whole class. This needn’t be exhaustive, as students will learn a lot more about these issues throughout the rest of the unit.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

- ☞ What surprised you about this activity?
- ☞ Who found someone with an opinion very different from your character’s opinion?
- ☞ What were some of the different opinions you encountered on why individuals were fighting in the Revolution?
- ☞ What were the results of the Revolution?
- ☞ What questions does this activity leave you with?

EXTENSION: TIMELINE/FLOWCHART OF THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION

Save the cards used during the Scavenger Hunt. As students learn more about the events of Rev-

olution, use the pictures to create a timeline or flowchart of the Revolution on a large piece of butcher paper or bulletin board. You may need to print out extra copies of some of the cards in order to mark all of the important events that particular figure was involved in. Various information can be displayed on the timeline: important events, changing alliances, and deaths of major leaders are a few examples.

THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION SCAVENGER HUNT

1. Find someone who was affected by the war. Who is this person? How was this person affected?
2. Find someone who supports the Mexican Revolution. Who is this person? Why do they support the revolution?
3. Find someone who is in opposition to the Mexican Revolution. Who is this person? Why do they support the revolution?
4. Find someone from Southern Mexico. What is their experience with the Revolution?
5. Find someone from Northern Mexico. What is their experience with the Revolution?
6. Find someone who saw things in the war that he or she found shocking. Who is this person? What shocked this person?
7. Find someone who fought in the revolution. Who did they fight for? Why did they join the Revolution?
8. Find one of the major leaders of the revolution. Why did they join the Revolution? What did they hope to accomplish through the Revolution?
9. Find someone from outside Mexico who has an opinion about the Revolution. Where are they from? Why are they in Mexico? What do they think about the Revolution?
10. Find someone who was a dictator of Mexico. Why did they take control of the country? What did they hope to accomplish?
11. Find someone who was killed fighting for the Revolution. How did they die?



**PEASANT
FROM MORELOS**



**WEALTHY LANDOWNER
FROM SONORA**



**LABORER
FROM VERACRUZ**



**U.S. AMBASSADOR
HENRY LANE WILSON**

WEALTHY LANDOWNER FROM SONORA

LOCATION: Sonora
BORN - DIED: 19th - 20th centuries
SOCIAL CLASS: Aristocrat / Haciendado
ALLEGIANCE: Porfiriato

I fully support Díaz in this war against the traitor, Madero. The state of Sonora has grown rich during the Porfiriato. Our mining industry thrives. We have eliminated the "Yaqui problem," making excellent use of land that had too long sat stagnant. I hear dangerous talk from the small landholders that they will join Madero. Election clubs are forming all around me in support of the traitor. This is a mistake. I will personally take up arms to aid my government, which has blessed us with stability and order.

U.S. AMBASSADOR HENRY LANE WILSON

LOCATION: Mexico City / Washington, D.C.
BORN - DIED: 1857 - 1932
SOCIAL CLASS: Privileged
ALLEGIANCE: U.S. Department of State

I have done much work in Mexico in furtherance of U.S. interests. After enormous difficulties, I got General Huerta and Félix Díaz to agree that Huerta should be the Provisional President of the Republic... I expect no further trouble in the city, and I congratulate the Department of State upon the happy outcome of events, which have been directly or indirectly the result of its instructions.

PEASANT FROM MORELOS

LOCATION: Morelos
BORN - DIED: 19th - 20th centuries
SOCIAL CLASS: Indigenous / Peasantry
ALLEGIANCE: Zapatistas

My father's land now belongs to the hacendado. It is part of a massive sugar plantation—more land than any one man could ever need. I work this land as a slave, spending my entire wage on food at the company store. I am told that I am constantly in debt and must pay my debt by working long days in the fields. But how can this be? I buy nothing except what I need to survive. When Madero became president, we expected that our families' lands would be returned. That is apparently a lie. I am ready to join Emiliano Zapata and his army which is preparing to move north against the traitor Madero.

LABORER FROM VERACRUZ

LOCATION: Veracruz
BORN - DIED: 19th - 20th centuries
SOCIAL CLASS: Laborer
ALLEGIANCE: Unknown / Multiple

I work twelve hour days, seven days per week. I make a pittance for a wage. My two youngest sons were worked to death in the textile mills. Recently, workers lashed out, setting the tienda de raya aflame. The local jefe called in federal troops to punish all of us. Federales fired point-blank into crowds, killing women and children without distinction. The dictator, Díaz, always supports the oppressive mill owners. If the workers strike again, I am afraid that my wife and remaining children will be killed.



PANCHO VILLA



EMILIANO ZAPATA



GILDARDO MAGAÑA



ALVARO OBREGÓN

EMILIANO ZAPATA

LOCATION: Morelos / The South
BORN - DIED: 1879 - 1919
SOCIAL CLASS: Indigenous / Peasantry
ALLEGIANCE: Zapatistas

It never occurred to Carranza that the Revolution was fought for the benefit of the great masses, for the legions of the oppressed whom he motivated with his harangues. He has given or rented our haciendas to his favorites. The old landholdings have been taken over by new landlords, and the people are mocked in their hopes. I am the leader of the Southern armies that fight for agrarian reform. My nickname is Attila of the South.

ÁLVARO OBREGÓN

LOCATION: Sonora / The North / Mexico City
BORN - DIED: 1880 - 1928
SOCIAL CLASS: Indigenous / Peasantry
ALLEGIANCE: Obregónistas

I view land ownership as important to the dignity of the people. This is one thing I learned from the Zapatistas. Since I have become president of Mexico, I have begun distributing land, and in the process, buying future support against potential opponents. The goals of my presidency will include land reform, modernization, and expanded access to education. With these goals, I should be able to easily gain the support of the Zapatistas and bring stability back to Mexico.

PANCHO VILLA

LOCATION: Durango / The North
BORN - DIED: 1878 - 1923
SOCIAL CLASS: Peasantry
ALLEGIANCE: Villistas

My nickname is Centaur of the North. I will never be president of Mexico. I was born without wealth, in Durango. I never went to school a day in my life, and I am not educated enough for the post. My alphabet has been the sight and trigger of my rifle; my books have been the movements of the enemy. I can fight only for the liberation of my people. If the federales win they will have to fight us again, but if we win we will leave them in such shape that they will not be able to recuperate. My defeat at Ceyala was the beginning of the end.

GILDARDO MAGAÑA

LOCATION: Michoacán / Morelos
BORN - DIED: 1891-1939
SOCIAL CLASS: Merchant/Educated
ALLEGIANCE: Zapatistas/Obregónistas

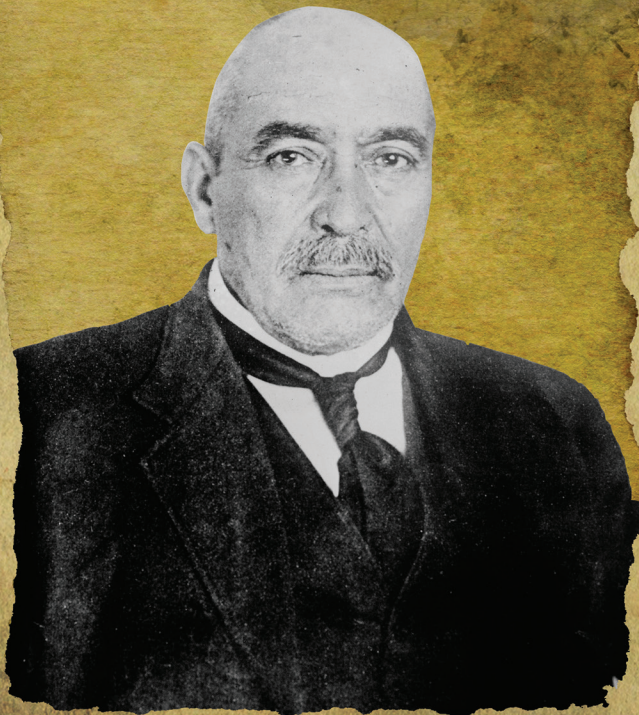
I am a Mexican, through and through, but I have been trained in economics in the U.S. With this background, I travelled south to join the Zapatistas. While other intellectuals were villainizing Zapata without reason, I recognized that his cause—land reform—was for the good of Mexico. When Zapata was assassinated by cowards, I was elected to lead his army. Though I will never fill his massive shoes with my tiny feet, I will do my best to try. In the interest of Mexico, I plan to pledge allegiance to Obregón, who has promised to return indigenous lands in exchange. The land we seek was nourished by the blood of those who died fighting for a liberated Mexico.



**VENUSTIANO
CARRANZA**



PORFIRIO DÍAZ



**VICTORIANO
HUERTA**



**AMERICAN
JOURNALIST**

PORFIRIO DÍAZ

LOCATION: Oaxaca / Mexico City / Europe
BORN - DIED: 1830 - 1915
SOCIAL CLASS: Working Class
ALLEGIANCE: Porfiriato

I have learned much from the great cities of Europe. I am using Paris and London as examples to modernize our economy and our transportation systems. I am building an international railroad from Texas to Durango! My científicos have brought Order, Liberty, and Progress to Mexico. It is true that the lower classes complain of brutal working conditions, poor diet and debilitating disease, but their lives too would improve if they would just stop drinking pulque and apply themselves to our great national project. Besides, if one complains too loudly, I will have him thrown in prison! My system of enforced peace is flawless.

AMERICAN JOURNALIST

LOCATION: U.S. / Veracruz
BORN - DIED: 19th - 20th centuries
SOCIAL CLASS: Privileged / Educated
ALLEGIANCE: None / Multiple

I am here during the American naval occupation of Veracruz. The occupation has given Veracruz a bull market in health, order, and business. Mexican paper money appreciated. Prices rose. Profits soared. Verily, the Veracruzans will long remember this being conquered by the Americans and yearn for the blissful day when the Americans will conquer them again. They would not mind thus being conquered to the end of time.

VENUSTIANO CARRANZA

LOCATION: Coahuila / The North
BORN - DIED: 1859 - 1920
SOCIAL CLASS: Privileged / Ranching
ALLEGIANCE: Carrancistas

I have restored the constitution of 1857 and ended the Huerta dictatorship. The revolution is over and the people of Mexico must begin rebuilding. I have heard that workers in Veracruz are striking again. I will not respond kindly to this. I have also heard that Zapata has called me a traitor to the revolution. I am devising a daring plot to kill this peasant from Morelos. One of my colonels will gain his trust, feign defection to his cause, accompany him to the Hacienda de Chinameca and assassinate him where he stands. With the labor movement and the Zapatistas finally quieted, Mexico will be rebuilt.

VICTORIANO HUERTA

LOCATION: Jalisco / Mexico City
BORN - DIED: 1850 - 1916
SOCIAL CLASS: Privileged / Military
ALLEGIANCE: Huerta

I am sick of these men of inaction. I have spent my life fighting against the Yaqui and Maya, and recently against the Zapatistas in Morelos. My president, Madero, could never do what I have done. He is weak. Let me tell you a secret: I have been working with the U.S. Ambassador to devise a plan for Mexico. He has reported to me that the soldiers are unhappy and that Don Porfirio's nephew, Félix, is staging a coup against Madero. I am seriously considering this opportunity to join these men and purge Mexico of its weakness.



**FRANCISCO I.
MADERO**



PASCUAL OROZCO



JOHN J. PERSHING



SOLDADERA

PASCUAL OROZCO

LOCATION: Chihuahua / The North
BORN - DIED: 1882 - 1915
SOCIAL CLASS: Middle Class
ALLEGIANCE: Huerta

Who am I, you ask? I am an experienced businessman, investor, and importer of U.S. weapons. I supplied and commanded Madero's forces against the tyranny of Díaz. When I defeated federal troops in battle after battle, I stripped their corpses of their uniforms and sent those rags to the dictator with a note that read: "Here are the wrappers, send me more tamales!" Thousands celebrated when my colonel, Villa, and I took Ciudad Juárez against all odds and guided Madero to the presidency. But Madero is not suited to rebuild Mexico. General Huerta and I will dispose of him shortly.

SOLDADERA

LOCATION: Durango / The North
BORN - DIED: 19th - 20th Centuries
SOCIAL CLASS: Indigenous / Peasantry
ALLEGIANCE: Villa

Many don't realize that women were an important part of the Mexican Revolution. We fought alongside our fathers, brothers, and husbands. We traveled on the tops of trains with our armies. I am one of those women, a coronela in Villa's army. I joined the army because Díaz had my father assassinated. While many say I could have been one of the most famous women of the Revolution, I left the fighting and returned home to Catarinas. I was too disillusioned with corruption of the Revolution.

FRANCISCO I. MADERO

LOCATION: Coahuila / Europe / The North / Mexico City
BORN - DIED: 1873 - 1913
SOCIAL CLASS: Extremely Privileged
ALLEGIANCE: Maderistas

Díaz's perpetual tyranny is intolerable. This violent and illegal system can no longer exist. The people designated me as their candidate in the 1910 election because I have the vigor of a patriot, ready to sacrifice myself, if necessary, to obtain liberty and to help the people free themselves! I declare the 1910 election illegal and I assume the provisional presidency of the republic. On Sunday, November 20, 1910, all the towns in the republic will rise in arms at 6 o'clock p.m. Viva la Revolucion!

JOHN J. PERSHING

LOCATION: Sonora / The North
BORN - DIED: 1860 - 1948
SOCIAL CLASS: Privileged / Military
ALLEGIANCE: U.S.

I am a fighter at heart. As a young man I was wounded fighting the Lakota at Wounded Knee. Pancho Villa, then, is nothing to me. I treated this man with respect when he met with me in 1914. And now he dares to invade U.S. territory and kill U.S. citizens? My troops will hunt down and rid the world of this common bandit.

GIUSEPPE GARIBALDI

LOCATION: Europe/South America / Juárez
BORN - DIED: 1879-1950
SOCIAL CLASS: Military
ALLEGIANCE: Maderistas

I am the grandson of the legendary Italian general who shared my name. My comrades call me "Peppino." I live, eat, and breathe war. I dream of it. I have fought dozens of battles on three continents, including the Battle of Juárez, where I proudly served Madero and Villa. Now Villa has grown jealous of my contributions to Mexico and I must flee to El Paso to escape his unpredictable rage. I suppose my next step will be to return to Europe to aid my countrymen in the Great War.

RODOLFO FIERRO

LOCATION: Sinaloa / The North
BORN - DIED: 1880-1915
SOCIAL CLASS: Labor
ALLEGIANCE: Villistas

I am Pancho Villa's right hand. They call me el carnicero, for I am the butcher of men. Once I captured a contingent of the enemy and offered their freedom if they could run 100 yards through a corral. Of the 200 who attempted, I shot down all but one. The lucky one managed to run the distance only because my trigger finger cramped and my gun became so hot from killing that it melted in my hand. As you can see, any man who stands against Villa will learn my wrath firsthand.

TORIBIO ORTEGA RAMÍREZ

LOCATION: Cuchillo Parada
BORN - DIED: 1861-1916
SOCIAL CLASS: Ranchero
ALLEGIANCE: Cuchillo Parada

Despite what you've heard, it is untrue that the Revolution began on November 20, 1910. In actuality, men from Cuchillo Parado had risen up against the federal government a week prior. While I do support Madero's cause against re-electionism, I am not particularly concerned with the abstract liberal-conservative split in Mexico. My allegiance is only to the community of Cuchillo Parado. For me, this war is about land. For too long Díaz has expropriated the lands of Cuchillo Parado for his friends and allies. This has to end. Thus, our first order of business on November 14 was to do away with the Porfiriato's installed cronies in and around Cuchillo Parado. We killed federales in the process—and so began the Revolution.

FLORES MAGÓN BROTHERS

LOCATION: Oaxaca/ US
BORN - DIED: 19th - 20th centuries
SOCIAL CLASS: Indigenous / Educated
ALLEGIANCE: Magonistas

Our anarchist "Magonista" party has long known that revolution is ripe in Mexico. Our newspaper, Regeneración, sparked the war against Díaz. Now Mexico is but a step away from true revolution—armed peasant rebellion. From the United States, in exile, we have this to say: We think that political liberty is a beautiful lie without corresponding economic liberty. We want bread for all. We want the land to be accessible to all, just as the air, the light, and the rays of the sun are there for all creatures on earth. We hope to one day see the restitution of communal lands to indigenous peoples, the cancellation of debt slavery, the abolition of the death penalty, the end of compulsory military service, the promotion of secular education, and the end of child labor.



RODOLFO FIERRO



GIUSEPPE GARIBALDI



**FLORES MAGÓN
BROTHERS**



**TORIBIO ORTEGA
RAMÍREZ**



**DOLORES JIMÉNEZ
Y MURO**



**PABLO GONZÁLEZ
GARZA**



HERMILA GALINDO



**AGUSTÍN VÍCTOR
CASASOLA**

PABLO GONZÁLEZ GARZA

LOCATION: Coahuila / Tampico / Morelos
BORN - DIED: 1879-1950
SOCIAL CLASS: Middle Class
ALLEGIANCE: Carrancistas

In this war, I have fought against Díaz, Madero, Zapata, and Obregón. Though a few—including Carranza, whom I have served loyally—mock me, claiming that I have never won a battle, I'll have you know that I was an instrumental general in the battles of Coahuila, Zacatecas, and Monterrey. If not for me, Huerta would still be dictator of Mexico. When Zapata, that peasant from Morelos, spoke out against Carranza, it is I who cleverly orchestrated his assassination. I am a constitutionalist, and I will crush the Zapatistas.

AGUSTÍN VÍCTOR CASASOLA

LOCATION: Mexico City
BORN - DIED: 1874-1938
SOCIAL CLASS: Working Class
ALLEGIANCE: None

I am a photojournalist; a documenter of great and small events. When I was a young man, my camera captured the world of the elite. I photographed Díaz with his white-powdered face and extraordinary garb. Later, I photographed his ship sailing off to exile in Europe. Today, I capture the human side of war. Photographic technology has grown together with the Revolution. My camera is no stranger to the frequent raids on villages and railways, the hard stares of men turned executioners, soldaderas, and the child soldiers.

DOLORES JIMÉNEZ Y MURO

LOCATION: Aguascalientes
BORN - DIED: 1848-1985
SOCIAL CLASS: Working Class/Educated
ALLEGIANCE: Zapatistas

Most are unaware that I helped Emiliano Zapata draft the Plan de Ayala. It is typical, of course, that a woman's hand in this great revolution goes uncelebrated. Fortunately, I am not motivated by personal glory. I am concerned with social justice; with the overthrow of Mexico's corrupt "leadership," whether Díaz, Madero, or Huerta. I propose improved working conditions for the people; affordable housing for all; access to education for Mexico's children; and the economic, moral, and spiritual elevation of the women of Mexico. Zapata learned of my ideas when I was rotting in prison. Now I am Zapata's colonel, and I will do everything in my power to ensure that this revolution is not wasted. Who will join me?

HERMILA GALINDO

LOCATION: Durango / Veracruz
BORN - DIED: 1896-1954
SOCIAL CLASS: Middle Class/Educated
ALLEGIANCE: Carrancistas

I made a simple speech in honor of Carranza when he overthrew the treacherous General Huerta. My words must have impressed this man from Coahuila, for he immediately asked me to help his cause and move to Veracruz—an offer I proudly accepted. With Carranza's trust, I am gradually reframing the liberal argument to include expanded rights for Mexico's women. In 1915 I published the widely circulated magazine, *La Mujer Moderna*, educating the masses on every topic from kissing hygiene to women's suffrage. Through this medium, we will capture the hearts and minds of the fashion-minded professional class. A woman should not simply be the "delight of her home." Such a wretched woman is flung into society's scorn: her future is cut off, she is tossed into the abyss of despair, misery, madness, or suicide.

References for Images

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2. **Wealthy landowner from Sonora.** Image provided by Fototeca-INAH. Núm 14566 | “Filiberto Villareal con ferrocarrileros durante la revolucion Delahuertista”
3. **Laborer from Veracruz.** Image provided by Fototeca-INAH. Núm 5070 | “Revolucionario zapatista al parecer frente a un parque, reprografía”
4. **U.S. Ambassador Henry Lane Wilson.** Image retrieved from <http://mexfiles.files.wordpress.com/2013/03/ambwilson-hires.jpg>
5. **Pancho Villa.** Image provided by Fototeca-INAH. Núm 5770 | “Francisco Villa en San Pedro de las Colonias, retrato”
6. **Emiliano Zapata.** Image provided by Fototeca-INAH. Núm 6341 | “Emiliano Zapata, general, retrato de tres cuartos de perfil”
7. **Gildardo Magaña.** Image provided by Fototeca-INAH. Núm 20658 | “Gildardo Magaña, general, vestido de traje, retrato”
8. **Alvaro Obregón.** Image provided by Fototeca-INAH. Núm 33320 | “Alvaro Obregon, general, retrato ”
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