

**Title:** Harry (and Bess) Truman's Excellent Adventure

**Author:** Lynette Williams

**Course:** US History

**Time Frame:** Homework activity

**Grade Levels:**

9, 10, 11, 12

**Classroom/Homework Activity to be performed:**

- Students will complete a geography book report/project based on the book

Algeo, Matthew. Harry Truman's Excellent Adventure: the True Story of a Great American Road Trip. Chicago Review Press, 2011

**Rationale:**

- Students are required to read a book with a geography element at some point during the year. This book is an interesting story with a geography undertone.

**Lesson objectives - the student will:**

- construct a map of the United States
- locate, gather, and process information from a variety of primary and secondary sources including maps
- identify how locations change over time

**District, state, or national performance and knowledge standards/goals/skills met:**

- MO SS CLE 5.B.b. Communicate locations of places by creating maps and by describing their absolute locations and relative locations
- MO SS CLE 5.C.b. Explain how and why places change
- MO SS CLE 5.G. Use geography to interpret the past, explain the present and plan for the future

**Secondary materials (book, article, video documentary, etc.) needed:**

- Algeo, Matthew. Harry Truman's Excellent Adventure: the True Story of a Great American Road Trip. Chicago Review Press, 2011

**Primary materials (book, article, video documentary, etc.) needed:**

- "Harry Truman's Excellent Adventure, May 6 2009 | Video." C-SPAN.org, 6 May 2009, [www.c-span.org/video/?286432-1%2Fharry-trumans-excellent-adventure](http://www.c-span.org/video/?286432-1%2Fharry-trumans-excellent-adventure).

**Full description of activity or assignment:**

- Student will read the book "Harry Truman's Excellent Adventure: the True Story of a Great American Road Trip"
  - Student will create a map of the route Harry Truman took on his Excellent Adventure
  - Student will write a one page book review using the district provided book review form (This assignment fulfills one of the required book reviews for the year)
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- Map will include all stops mentioned in the book and a brief description of each
  - Map will include any changes to the locations mentioned in the book or found during research

## Full explanation of the assessment method and/or scoring guide:

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Neatness of Color and Lines	All straight lines are ruler-drawn, all errors have been neatly corrected and all features are colored completely.	All straight lines are ruler-drawn, most errors have been neatly corrected and most features are colored completely.	Most straight lines are ruler-drawn, most errors have been neatly corrected and most features are colored completely.	Many lines, colors, errors, and/or features not neatly done.
Spelling/Capitalization	95-100% of words on the map are spelled and capitalized correctly.	94-85% of the words on the map are spelled and capitalized correctly.	84-75% of the words on the map are spelled and capitalized correctly.	Less than 75% of words on the map spelled and/or capitalized correctly.
Color Choices	Student always uses color appropriate for features (e.g. blue for water; black for labels, etc.) on map.	Student usually uses color appropriate for features (e.g. blue for water; black for labels, etc.).	Student sometimes uses color appropriate for features (e.g. blue for water; black for labels, etc.).	Student does not use color appropriately.
Labels - Accuracy	At least 90% of the items are labeled and located correctly.	80-89% of the items are labeled and located correctly.	79-70% of the items are labeled and located correctly.	Less than 70% of items are labeled and located correctly.
Scale	All features on map are drawn to scale and the scale used is clearly indicated on the map.	Most features on map are drawn to scale and the scale used is clearly indicated on the map.	Many features of the map are NOT drawn to scale even though a scale is clearly indicated on the map.	Many features are NOT drawn to scale AND/OR there is no scale marker on the map.
Map Legend/Key	Legend is easy-to-find and contains a complete set of symbols, including a compass rose.	Legend contains a complete set of symbols, including a compass rose.	Legend contains an almost complete set of symbols, including a compass rose.	Legend is absent or contains several symbols not used on the map.
Title	Title tells the purpose/content of the map, is clearly distinguishable as the title (e.g. larger letters, underlined, etc), and is printed at the top of the map.	Title tells the purpose/content of the map and is printed at the top of the map.	Title tells the purpose/content of the map, but is not located at the top of the map.	Purpose/content of the map is not clearly stated in the title.