

9th/10th grade

Alaska Studies

American Alaska

Early Cannery History and Cannery Art

Early Canneries and Cannery Art

STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO:

1. LOCATE THE BEGINNINGS OF SALMON CANNING IN ALASKA
2. IDENTIFY ORIGINS OF CANNERY WORKERS BOTH EARLY IN CANNING HISTORY AND TODAY
3. ANALYZE THE REASONS FOR WORKERS ENGAGING IN ART
4. Take the perspective of a seasonal worker and explain what art they would bring to represent their culture

Materials / Films Needed

Cannery art

After Alaska Purchase, the First Salmon Cannery Pops Up

Learning Objectives & Standards

Alaska History

AH. PPE 3 using texts/ sources to analyze the effect of the historical contributions and/or influences of significant individuals or groups and local, regional, statewide, and/or international organizations.

SEL

3C. Student demonstrates an awareness of cultural issues and a respect for human dignity and differences.

Structure / Activity

- Connect to prior learning:
 - Assignment about economic impact of American colonization
 - Point out that very few of the booming industries are still around
- Have students read article about the first cannery and answer questions:
 - 1. Who was Charles Sumner, and what did he think about Alaska Fisheries?
 - 2. What were other ways of preserving and selling salmon, and what advantages were there to canning that made it popular?
 - 3. Where was the first salmon cannery in Alaska? Why was it put there?
 - 4. Where did the workers for the first cannery come from? Where did many cannery workers come from, according to the article?
- Watch video together and discuss:
 - Where did cannery workers come from?
 - What types of art were popular, and what do the interviewees think influenced the art?
 - Why do you think the people made art at their workplace?

Assessment: Students answer the following prompt, and turn it in to Canvas

After our class discussion, imagine that you are working in a cannery, but you live where you do now. Choose a piece of art (or music, or a game) that you would like to share with your fellow cannery workers. Why would you share it with them? What does it communicate about who you are and where you come from? What can we learn about others' cultures by seeing the art they share when away from home?