

Arizona Pioneers: Jack Swilling

GRADE LEVEL: 7th & 8th Grades

OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this lesson, students will learn the following:

- Who Jack Swilling was and why he is important to the foundational history of Phoenix
 - Who the Hohokam were
 - Why canals are essential for life in the Valley
 - Why pioneers came to Central Arizona
 - What objects pioneers used in daily life
-

ARIZONA STATE STANDARDS:

SP1.1 – Analyze primary and secondary sources to generate questions about historical events and developments.

SP2.1 – Construct and support claims about the past using reasoning and evidence from multiple sources.

SP3.1 – Analyze how historical events and people are connected using multiple sources.

H1.1 – Explain the causes and effects of interactions between societies.

H3.1 – Analyze how societies changed and developed over time.

G1.1 – Use and construct maps and other geographic representations to explain relationships between locations of places and regions.

G2.1 – Explain how people modify and adapt to the environment.

G3.1 – Analyze how the availability of natural resources influences where people settle and how societies develop.

Arizona Pioneers: Jack Swilling

C2.1 – Explain how individuals and groups work together to solve problems in communities and societies.

MATERIALS:

Computer/laptop with internet access; projector/TV with speakers; Meet Jack Swilling Reading Passage; Cause and Effect Vocabulary Worksheet; Pioneer Settlement Activity; AZ Pioneers Traveling Trunk; lined paper

ENGAGE: Hook the students

Play the YouTube video: [Uncovering Phoenix's Founder: Jack Swilling – Hero or Deserter? \(Mysteries of the Superstition Mountains\)](#)

Discussion Questions:

- What do you think makes a person a pioneer?
 - What are your first impressions of Jack Swilling?
-

EXPLORE: Students make sense of a concept through observations.

Distribute the [Meet Jack Swilling Reading Passage](#) and [Cause and Effect Vocabulary](#) worksheets.

Students read and define terms.

Discussion Question:

- Why was what Jack Swilling did with the canals so important?

Alternate Activity

Use the following prompt to introduce the Pioneer Settlement Activity:

Arizona Pioneers: Jack Swilling

"You are a group of pioneers traveling through the Arizona Territory in the late 1800s. Your group must decide where to build a new settlement. Settlers had to carefully choose their location so their community could survive and grow in the desert.

Look closely at the map of the Arizona Territory. Think about what a successful settlement would need. Where will settlers get water? *Is there land nearby where crops could grow? Are there rivers, valleys, or travel routes that might help the community develop?*

Use what you learned about pioneers, irrigation, and the desert environment to choose the best location for your settlement. Mark your chosen location on the map and answer the historical analysis questions on your worksheet. Your answers should explain why you chose that location and how it would help settlers survive in the Arizona Territory."

Distribute the [Pioneer Settlement Activity](#) sheets and provide students with the map of the Arizona Territory. Students should use vocabulary and ideas from the Jack Swilling reading passage in their responses. After completing their answers, have students discuss their settlement choices and reasoning in small groups.

EXPLAIN: Teacher introduces formal vocabulary and language to students.

Legacy	Archaeology	Pioneer
Canals	Environment	Agriculture
Ball courts	Pioneer	Irrigation
Settlement	Indigenous	Hohokam
Archaeologist	Territory	

EVALUATE: Assessment

Teachers will choose which activities to use as formal assessments.

Arizona Pioneers: Jack Swilling

ENRICHMENT: Students apply what they have learned.

Follow the instructions on the [AZ Pioneers Traveling Trunk Discovery](#) sheet to guide students through the AZ Pioneers Traveling Trunk.

Alternate Activity:

Follow the instructions on the [Photo Object Inquiry](#) sheet to guide students through the [What Would a Pioneer Use? Objects Slideshow](#).