

Teacher's Guide for COBBLESTONE

November/December 2010: Henry Clay: Man With a Plan

By Linda M. Andersen, School Counselor at Eastover-Central Elementary School in Fayetteville, North Carolina

Goal: to pay tribute to the political contributions and accomplishments of Henry Clay.

*Always have a parent or adult you trust help you research websites.

"Filling the Hall of Fame" by Andrew Matthews (Pages 2-3)

Pre-reading:

Look at the pictures, captions, and the title. What office did these men hold and where can their portraits be seen? What were some of the causes they fought for?

Vocabulary: involvement, inspiration, passionate, adornment, medallion, constituents, significance, exemplified, transcending, constitutional interpretation, unanimously, possessed, determination, compromise, distinction, permanent, staunch, championed, tirelessly, intellect, nullifier, supporter, oratory, acclaim, progressive, controversial, and influence.

Comprehension Check:

1. What does the author mean when he says: "A staunch Union man, Henry Clay worked tirelessly to keep his state of Kentucky loyal to the Union?"
2. The author states that "Calhoun came to believe that each state was an individual power..." What does this indicate that he believed earlier?
3. How did the beliefs of Daniel Webster change while in office?
4. Which senator pictured was an advisor to a president?
5. Where does the author suggest Democrats and Republicans in Congress could look for inspiration?
6. How is the Senate Reception Room used?
7. What was added to the Senate Reception Room in 1959?
8. Who decided which five senators would be honored in the Senate Hall of Fame?
9. How many senators are in the Senate Hall of Fame today?
10. These senators were said to possess courage. In what way?

Art:

- Draw a logo that represents the senator selected to the Hall of Fame for "statesmanship transcending party and State lines."
- Choose a senator's nickname and illustrate it.

Writing Activity:

1. All the Senators featured here have a nickname except for Daniel Webster. Read his description. Give him a nickname.
2. Write your best guess for why senators might change their opinions from one extreme to another. For example some began as a state's rights man and changed to support the federal government. What do you think would cause this?

3. Write a dialogue between Robert M. LaFollette and a constituent. In the dialogue, LaFollette makes a statement in support of income tax. The constituent disagrees. "Battling Bob" makes one more remark.

Research:

- Arthur H. Vandenberg
- Robert F. Wagner

"Mill Boy of the Slashes" by Marcia Amidon Lusted, illustrated by Cheryl Kirk Noll (Pages 4-6)

Pre-reading: Look at the pictures and the title. What do you think a "mill boy" might be? What is probably true about the boy? Why do you think so?

Vocabulary: reverend, frequently, destruction, disrupted, contained, maintain, poverty, inherited, siblings, ventilation, credentials, regretted, admitted, resources, errand, coattails, starched, diligent, trembled, reputation, inquired, distinguished, professor, society, cultured, indebted, instruction, advice, certified, and profession.

Comprehension Check:

1. Henry was called "the mill boy of the slashes." Why?
2. What was the size of Henry's family?
3. Describe the work of Henry's father.
4. How old was Henry when his father died?
5. What horrible experience did Henry witness during the Revolutionary War?
6. What did Henry's mother inherit?
7. Henry's mother eventually remarried. Tell about the children's stepfather.
8. Tell about Henry's school experiences.
9. Who was a famous traveling speaker that Henry heard?
10. What do you think it would be like to have been left behind at fourteen years old to continue your education?
11. Describe how Henry looked on his first day of work at the court.
12. How would other law clerks have described Henry?
13. Tell who Henry worked for as a personal secretary.
14. Name some famous people who were students of Henry's boss.
15. What were some of the things Henry learned from Wythe other than legal training?
16. What kind of job did Wythe help Henry find?
17. How old was Henry Clay when he became a lawyer?

Art:

- Read the description of Henry on his first day of work at the court (Page 5). Illustrate that scene.
- Illustrate scenes from Henry Clay's childhood.

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be Henry Clay. Write a letter of appreciation to Chancellor George Wythe for being so helpful.
2. What do you think a cultured gentleman would have said to someone teasing him for being "mill boy of the slashes?" Write a response.
3. Pretend to be Henry Clay. Write Mother a letter and tell her about the new job as personal secretary to Chancellor George Wythe.

Research:

- Chancellor George Wythe

"Lawyer on the Rise" by Marcia Amidon Lusted (Page 6)

Vocabulary: opportunity, family connections, steady, disputes, acquitted, anecdotes, entertained, rapid, energetic, and impression.

Comprehension Check:

1. What does the author mean when she says, "Richmond was overrun with lawyers?"
2. Why was it easier for a young lawyer to find clients on the frontier than in established cities like Richmond?
3. What did Henry Clay have to study when he moved? Why?
4. What type cases made Henry Clay well known?
5. Why might you enjoy being on the jury if Henry Clay was presenting a case?
6. How did Henry Clay treat poor people who needed a lawyer?
7. What does the Fast Fact mean when it states that Henry Clay was below the constitutionally required age of 30 when he was appointed to the Senate?

"Meet the Clays" by Marcia Amidon Lusted (Page 7)

Pre-reading:

Look at the pictures, captions, and the title. Why do you think the author included both of the Clays?

Vocabulary: influential, boasted, managing, estate, preferred, relied, outskirts, mansion, vault, and monument.

Comprehension Check:

1. Name two or more examples that show Lucretia Hart's family had wealth.
2. What do you think the author means when she says that Lucretia was "spirited enough to deal with Henry?"
3. Why did Lucretia rarely need to rely on money Henry left when he went to Washington?
4. How many children did the Clays have? How many of the Clay children were living when their father died? How did the second son die?
5. How do you know that both Clays loved Ashland very much?

Writing Activity:

1. Create a circle map with Lucretia Clay's name in the center. Draw spokes outside the circle and write a fact about Mrs. Clay on each spoke.
2. Pretend to be Lucretia Clay. Write a letter to Henry telling him of events that happened at Ashland while he was away.
3. Make a list of things Lucretia Clay might have done that show she was good at managing their estate while Henry was away.

Art:

- Draw the family home at Ashland. It is described as a brick mansion. Now draw your idea of a mansion. How are they alike? How are they different?

Research:

- Lucretia Clay

"A Political Career" by Marcia Amidon Lusted (Pages 8-11)

Pre-reading:

Look at the pictures, captions, and the title. The title tells us that politics was Henry Clay's career. What pictures and caption clues help you know this also?

Vocabulary: symbolic, supported, preservation, confident, craft, spanned, touts, campaign banner, beckoned, Alien, Sedition, controversial, expanding, exemplify, potential, resigned, supposed, seize, rebellion, technically, eligible, transformed, violation, maritime, confrontation, officially, negotiate, delegation, colleagues, optimist, destiny, establish, resident, frontier, petitioned, influence, emerging, protective tariffs, clout, compromiser, catastrophes, conciliation, opponent, inscribed, threatened, determination, harmony, unity, opposing, and spanned.

Comprehension Check:

1. Why did Henry Clay leave a career as a successful lawyer to go into politics?
2. Clay helped pass the Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions. What differences did that make?
3. What opportunity came to Henry Clay when John Adair resigned from the U.S. Senate?
4. After Henry Clay finished John Adair's year in the U.S. Senate, what did he do when he returned to Kentucky?
5. What opportunity came to Henry Clay when Senator Buckner Thruston resigned?
6. What unexpected opportunity came to Henry Clay on the first day in the House of Representatives?
7. How many times has this unexpected opportunity in the House of Representatives come before and after Henry Clay's experience?
8. How did Henry Clay change the role of Speaker of the House?
9. How much power does Speaker of the House have?
10. What was the War of 1812 sometimes called?
11. Tell Henry Clay's involvement with the War of 1812.
12. What was Henry Clay optimistic about?
13. As America expanded westward, Henry Clay supported legislature to keep America united. Tell two ways he did this.
14. What is one political victory Henry Clay never won?
15. How did he get his nickname? What was it?
16. Henry Clay held political positions for nearly five decades. Use the timeline on page 11 to see how far away he was from serving fifty years.
17. Why do you think Henry Clay was called "the fearless friend of his country's rights?"

Writing Activity:

1. Choose a trait that you admire in Henry Clay, such as peacemaker. Give examples of what a peacemaker might do.
2. Pretend to be someone who helped elect Henry Clay to Speaker of the House on the first day of his first session. Write a letter telling that you witnessed something that had never happened before. (Page 9)

Art:

- Create a poster that illustrates this statement: "Clay remained firm in his determination to maintain harmony and unity." (Page 11)
- Create a poster that shows Henry Clay as "an optimist who believed that the United States was headed toward a great destiny." (Page 9)

Research:

- The War of 1812
- The Treaty of Ghent of 1814
- The Alien and Sedition Acts

"Try, Try Again" by Stephen Currie and Andrew Matthews (Pages 12-13)

Pre-reading:

Look at the pictures, captions, and title. What do you think the title means? Who is it speaking of?

Vocabulary: front-runners, literally, presidential primary, nomination, ultimately, predicted, opponent, controversial, previously, less-privileged, candidate, electoral, nominee, crucial, influence, supporters, furious, corrupt, reputation, renewal, supported, opposed, territorial expansion, annexation, rallied, acquire, enormously, expand, continent, disappointing, and attempt.

Comprehension Check:

1. Why was the 1824 Presidential election one of the most controversial?
2. How was the voting population different in the 1824 election?
3. Why did ordinary white male Americans support Andrew Jackson?
4. Explain why Andrew Jackson did not win the 1824 election.
5. Jackson accused Clay of cheating. Why?
6. In 1832, Andrew Jackson and Henry Clay ran for president. Which one supported a national bank? Who won?
7. In 1840, Henry Clay ran for president. Who did he run against?
8. In 1844, Henry Clay ran against James K. Polk for president. Which one was considered the "dark horse" candidate? What does that mean?
9. Explain the presidential candidates' views about annexing Texas.
10. What decision did Henry Clay make after the presidential election of 1844?
11. Why did James K. Polk's messages about the Oregon Territory appeal to many Americans?

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be Henry Clay. Write a letter to Lucretia Clay after the presidential election of 1844.
2. Look at the illustration on page 13 that predicted that Henry Clay would win the 1844 election. Create an illustration that shows the actual outcome of the election.

Art:

- Illustrate "the corrupt bargain." (Page 13)
- Illustrate results of the Electoral College during the Presidential Election of 1824

Research:

- Oregon Territory
- Electoral College

"To Africa" by Gloria Harris (Pages 14-15)**Pre-reading:**

Look at the pictures, captions, and title. Who was making a journey from the United States to Africa? Why?

Vocabulary: supported, resettlement, achieve, equality, proposal, harmoniously coexist, racial discrimination, pursue, influential, colonizing, prosperous, financed, consisting, inspired, enthusiastically, suspicions, abolitionists, merely, unconquerable prejudice, sponsored, tropical, survived, negotiating, reluctant, permanent, vain, influence, approximately, independence, concentrated, opportunities, republic, and dissolved.

Comprehension Check:

1. What did many Americans believe about black and white people coexisting?
2. What was Henry Clay's view of resettlement?
3. The American Colonization Society (ACS) began to pursue resettlement. Name some wealthy white Americans who belonged to the group.

4. Who financed the first resettlement voyage? Why?
5. Tell why some people were suspicious of the ACS.
6. Tell how Frederick Douglass and other Free African American leaders felt about resettlement?
7. Why was the first permanent resettlement named Monrovia?
8. Who was the first president of the resettlement colonies in Liberia?
9. About how many people resettled in Liberia?
10. After Liberia declared its independence, what did the ACS do to help the colonies?
11. When did the ACS dissolve?

Writing Activity:

1. Explain why Henry Clay continued to push for colonization in Africa.
2. Tell the names of groups who favored resettlement. Tell the names of groups who were opposed to resettlement.

Art:

- Create a poster that promotes resettlement.
- Create a poster that discourages resettlement.

Research:

- American Colonization Society
- Joseph Jenkins Roberts

“The Great Compromiser” by Craig E. Blohm and Kathiann M. Kowalski (Pages16-19)

Pre-reading:

Look at the pictures, captions, subtopics, and title. How serious were these national issues? How can you tell?

Vocabulary: persuading, compromise, latitude, prohibited, exception, merely, perpetual posterity, allegiance, preserve, devoted, critical, threatened, orator, debater, admiration, colleagues, opposing, resolve, establishment, crucial, abolish, maintained, delicate, imaginary, extended, exception, forbidden, tariffs, imposed, merchandise, plantations, hostility, momentous, permanently, sectional, combat, invalid, nullification, furious, threatened, proposed, undermined, resolutions, controversy, incurred, fugitive, dramatic, referred, provisions, prohibit, negotiate, exhausted, temporary, immediate, ultimately, and crisis.

Comprehension Check:

1. How was Henry Clay able to arrange a compromise on major issues?
2. What do the authors mean by “an invisible line developed between northern and southern ways of life?” (Page 16)
3. What was the primary benefit of the Compromise over Missouri?
4. Explain the imaginary line—latitude 36 degrees 30 minutes.
5. Why do you think the authors called the series of tariffs “troubling tariffs.” (Page 17)
6. What was former president Thomas Jefferson’s opinion of the Missouri Compromise of 1820? (Page 17)
7. What is nullification? Who suggested it? (Page 18)
8. What was Henry Clay’s proposal about the tariffs? Did this improve relations between the North and South? Why or why not?
9. Henry Clay presented eight resolutions to the Senate and asked that they be adopted as one bill. Tell what happened instead.
10. What was Daniel Webster afraid would happen without a compromise?
11. What did Senator Stephen A. Douglas propose?
12. How was Henry Clay feeling after speaking over seventy times for compromise? Why?

13. The Civil War did eventually split the nation. The authors said, "By the time fighting did break out, while the nation was not strong enough to remain united, it was strong enough to survive that conflict." Explain the authors' comment.

Writing Activity:

1. The authors stated: "No one devoted more to keeping the nation united than Henry Clay." (Page 16) Name two or more ways he demonstrated his loyalty.
2. Look at the picture and caption on page 18. Pretend to be a senator who was present when this scene happened. Write a letter telling about what you witnessed.
3. Make a list of questions to ask a present-day senator about safety procedures in place.

Art:

- Henry Clay is known for his efforts to balance states' rights and national interests. He earned the nickname the "Great Compromiser." Illustrate his efforts to balance rights and interests or illustrate the nickname.
- Read the Fast Fact on page 19. Illustrate the division of Henry Clay's grandsons during the Civil War.

Research:

- The Missouri Compromise of 1820
- The Compromise of 1850

"Party On...or Not!" by Meg Chorlian (Pages 22-23)

Pre-reading:

Look at the pictures, captions, subtopics, and title. What kind of party/parties is this article about?

Vocabulary: proclaims, platform, keenly, compromises, increasingly, dramatically, explanations, opponents, influential, promoting, nominated, plank, extension, attempted, acquire, ultimately, restrict, contrasted, sharply, dissatisfied, immigration, abandoned, opposed, acceptability, and collapsed.

Comprehension Check:

1. Tell about the nation's difficulty working out situations and how that affected the political parties.
2. What caused the Whig party to split?
3. What was the Wilmot Proviso? Who supported it?
4. What did the Free Soil Party oppose?
5. When some Democrats abandoned their party, which one did many join? Why?
6. In what area of the country did the Republican Party grow strong?
7. Name two things the Know-Nothing, or American, Party stood against.

Writing Activity:

1. Choose one party's name and list beliefs of that group.
2. Which party do you most agree with? Why?

Art:

- Make a poster promoting the party group of your choice.
- Make a poster discouraging others from voting for a party.

Research:

- Wilmot Proviso
- Know-Nothing, or American, Party
- Free Soil Party

"Did You Know?" illustrated by Chris Ware (Pages 24-25)

Vocabulary: credited, society, admirer, introduced, considered, directions, impact, collectively, triumvirate, administration, authority, rotunda, and ceremony.

Comprehension Check:

1. Name one of Henry Clay's admirers who became president.
2. What type livestock did Henry Clay introduce to the United States?
3. What is a "self-made man?"
4. What nickname did Henry Clay share with two other gentlemen? How did they get that name?
5. Tell one way our nation honored Henry Clay.

Writing Activity:

1. Henry Clay lived in Kentucky. How did he probably travel to Washington? Describe what his journey might be like.
2. Pretend to be Henry Clay. Write a letter to Lucretia (wife) telling something Abraham Lincoln might have said.

Art:

- Illustrate a symbol or drawing that represents Henry Clay as the "Great Compromiser."
- Illustrate Henry Clay as a good sport. Even though he lost the presidency race several times, he never walked away from politics.

"An American System" by Kathiann M. Kowalski (Pages 26-29)

Pre-reading:

Look at the pictures, captions, subtopics, and title. Henry Clay's economic policy package was called "An American System." Determine the four main concepts by reading the subtopics.

Vocabulary: promoted, tariffs, unite, stable money system, support, established, oversees, interstate, international, economists, negative impact, intense, rivalry, opposition, competing, temporarily, expensive, benefit, burdens, vile, hateful, prosperity, countered, restrict, undisturbed, null and void, defiance, nullification, lingering, aggravated, disagreements, tensions, promoted, transportation, manufactured, argued, affection, construction, provided, surveying, opposition, vetoed, constitutional, improvements, stabilize, foreclosed, involvement, confirmed, interfere, recharter, legacy, preferred, compromises, impacts, ultimately, and abroad.

Comprehension Check:

1. Why were industries in America struggling?
2. What did Henry Clay recommend to give industries in America "a competitive edge?"
3. What did some southerners call the 1828 import tax? Why?
4. Explain Henry Clay's views on "free trade."
5. Explain the Nullification Crisis (Page 27)
6. Where did funds come from to help build roads and canals.
7. Why did Henry Clay think the federal government needed to support the building of roads and canals?
8. President Andrew Jackson gave one bill the "pocket veto." What does that mean? What was the purpose of the bill?
9. The author states that "the intense rivalry between Henry Clay and Andrew Jackson reached new heights over the issue of the Second Bank of the United States." Tell about the actions Jackson took.
10. The author states that "Clay's ideas were ahead of his time." (Page 29) What does the author mean?

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to own an industry in a northern state. Tell if you think the 1828 import tax was a burden or a benefit. Why?
2. Pretend to be cotton plantation owner in a southern state. Tell if you think the 1828 import tax was a burden or a benefit. Why?
3. Pretend that Henry Clay could travel through time. Write his reaction to interstate road construction projects today.

Art:

- Illustrate a "road trip" before 1824. Illustrate a road trip today. What is the same? What is different?
- Illustrate Henry Clay's quote, "Government is a trust, and the officers of the government are trustees. And both the trust and the trustees are created for the benefit of the people."

Research:

- Nullification Crisis
- The American System of 1824
- Federal Reserve Bank

"Trading Partners" by Kathiann M. Kowalski (Page 29)**Pre-reading:**

Look at the pictures, captions, and title. Why was NAFTA formed?

Vocabulary: established, economists, negative impact, treaties, barriers, despite, protectionist policies, substantial, production, critics, expanded, particularly, politicians, restricting, questionable, economy, ultimately, backlash, impose, and exports.

Comprehension Check:

1. What countries established NAFTA in 1994?
2. What does WTO stand for? Is the United States a member? How large is the group?
3. What are Protectionist policies?
4. What do some politicians believe "could slow the loss of more American jobs?"
5. What do some politicians argue would happen if imports were restricted?

Writing Activity:

1. Keep a day's journal. List products used in your day including clothing, food, furnishing, car, etc. Record the country where each item was made or grown.
2. What are trade barriers? Does NAFTA increase or decrease barriers?

Art:

- Illustrate the "most-favored nation" treatment.
- Illustrate "trading partners."

Research:

- NAFTA
- WTO

"Time Capsule" by Fred Schwengel (age 32-34)**Pre-reading:**

Look at the pictures, captions, and title. What is this article about?

Vocabulary: restoration, platform, mahogany, current, capsule, referring, semicircular, reconstruction, completion, domed, accommodate, disregard, immortal, inseparable, occurred, dramatically, fragment, emphasis, bicentennial, magnificent, canopied, replicas, whiskered, and frock coats.

Comprehension Check:

1. What does the author mean when he says, "The Old Senate Chamber is frozen in time?"
2. What does the author mean when he says that the Old Senate Chamber "has a history as rich as that of the United States?"
3. How long did it take to build the Capitol Building?
4. How long was the Senate Chamber in the two-story semicircular chamber above the Supreme Court before it was severely damaged by fire?
5. How long before the Senate Chamber was reconstructed after the fire?
6. The Senate moved to its new north wing in 1859. The Supreme Court moved into the Old Senate Chamber and stayed there until 1935. How long was that?
7. The Old Senate Chamber was restored by 1976. Why was this a special year for our country?
8. Describe the desk of the president of the Senate.
9. Who is the president of the Senate?
10. There are 64 desks and armchairs present in the Old Senate Chamber. Why? Are they original? Why or why not?
11. Why does the author say that when you visit the Old Senate Chamber "on most days, you will find only ghosts: whiskered gentlemen in frock coats, seated in leather chairs, guiding the early years of a young nation?"
12. Why do you think seats were reserved for ladies in one of the galleries of the Old Senate Chamber?

Writing Activity:

1. Describe your favorite feature of the Old Senate Chamber and tell why you like that feature best.
2. Pretend you were present in the Old Senate Chamber when a debate was going on. Who would you like to see? Why? What one question or comment would you want to make?

Art:

- Illustrate the growth of the Senate. You may use an expression such as "bursting at the seams."
- Pretend that you have been promoted to the job of your dreams. Design an elaborate desk for your office.

Research:

- Why did it take so long to complete the Capital Building?
- Architect Benjamin Henry Latrobe
- Architect Charles Bulfinch

"A New Site for the Senate" by Fred Schwengel (Page 34)

Vocabulary: rectangular, adorned, lodged, niches, and rostrum

Comprehension Check:

1. Describe the ceiling in the Senate Chamber.
2. Why do you think busts of the vice presidents are on display in the Senate Chamber?
3. Which direction do the senators sit? Why?
4. Where do Democratic Senators sit? Where do Republican Senators sit?
5. How do senators know where to sit?

Research:

- Symbols on the glass ceiling of the Senate Chamber

"Ashland's Spirit" by Meg Chorlian (Page 35-38)

Pre-reading:

Look at the pictures, captions, interview questions, and the title. Which section interests you the most? Why do you think the author chose the title: Ashland's Spirit?

Vocabulary: descendants, memories, ancestors, devastated, reluctance, bade, structural damage, legacy, exception, sympathies, unpopular, financial, residence, agricultural, mechanical, refuge, approximately, erected, preserving, legacy, possession, attachment, associated, venerate, comprehensive, countenanced, cherished, authority, surrounded, outskirts, marvel, novelty, rosettes, courtesies, trivial, adjoining, hazy, patron, foaling, veterinary, standardbred, thoroughbreds, enterprise, and trotting.

Comprehension Check:

1. Who was interviewed about Ashland? How is she related to Henry Clay?
2. The author says we "sat down" with Nannette McDowell Bullock? Why are the words "sat down" in quotations? Page 38 tells when Nannette was born.
3. What did Henry Clay's son, James, do when he bought Ashland? Why?
4. Why did James Clay leave Ashland?
5. Who bought Ashland after James Clay died?
6. How did Ashland get back in the Clay family?
7. Name differences Henry Clay would notice if he saw Ashland today.
8. What object that belonged to George Washington remains at Ashland?
9. Henry Clay reminded us that the attachment to an object that belonged to someone famous "is not merely a private feeling." What other type feeling is it?
10. What famous horse race had winners from Ashland? Who started the horse farm at Ashland?
11. How was John Clay's wife involved with the horse farm? What was the result?

Writing Activity:

1. Add a question to the interview of Nannette McDowell Bullock.
2. Write a response to the interview question you created.
3. Henry Clay loved Ashland. According to the author, it was "a place where he found great happiness and peace." What place gives you happiness and peace? Tell why.

Art:

- If you could create your own special place, what would it be? Illustrate it.

Research:

- Kentucky Derby
- The Agricultural and Mechanical College of Kentucky University
- Ashland in Kentucky

"A Solid Foundation" by Meg Chorlian (Page 39)

Pre-reading:

Look at the pictures and the title. Who or what do you think has a solid foundation?

Vocabulary: provisions, wander, marvel, privy, renovated, mansion, approximately, dueling pistols, descendants, involved, memorial foundation, and artifacts.

Comprehension:

1. What steps did Nannette McDowell Bullock take to insure that Ashland would be preserved?

2. What arrangement did Nannette make for her son Henry?
3. How many people visit Ashland per year?
4. Describe the privy at Ashland.
5. What is on display that shows how Henry Clay traveled from Kentucky to Washington?
6. What is the foundation that the title speaks of?
7. About what percent of the house contents belonged to the Clay family? About what percent belonged to Henry Clay?

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend to be Henry Clay. Select an item on display at Ashland as an inspiration for a brief dialogue or monologue. For example: Henry could be hitching his horse to the carriage and telling Lucretia goodbye.
2. Pretend to be Henry Bullock and living upstairs at Ashland while visitors come to the museum below. Describe how Henry Bullock might feel as he sees crowds come to the door. How would you feel?

Art:

- Illustrate two or three of the contents in your house that represent you.
- Illustrate your favorite jacket. Compare and contrast with Henry Clay's jacket that is featured.

Research:

- Use the internet to create a map and directions from Ashland Henry Clay Estate at 120 Sycamore Road, Lexington, KY40502 to US House of Representatives at Independence Ave. & Capitol St, Washington, DC 20003. Use www.mapquest.com or www.googlemaps.com. How far was the journey? How long would it take to travel the distance today? How long did it take Henry Clay to travel to make the trip?
- Henry Clay Memorial Foundation
- Treaty of Ghent in 1814

"Going Global: Speaking for All"— by Marcia Amidon Lusted, illustrated by Bryan Langdo (Pages 40-41)

Pre-reading:

Look at the pictures, subtopics, and title. When would an individual speak for all?

Vocabulary: accomplishments, mediator, impact, impressive, restrictions, essentially, constituent, revolt, eliminating, resolution, integrity, interrupted, corporations, preferring, conservatives, liberals, mediation, absolute, unrepentant, intervene, opposition, influential, endured, and strife.

Comprehension Check:

1. What is meant by "absolute control?" Explain why this description fit Cannon.
2. What caused Cannon to lose absolute control?
3. Do you think the Speaker of the House should have absolute control? Why or why not?
4. Who was the longest-serving Speaker of the House in U.S. history? How long did he serve?
5. What does it mean "to champion the causes of the poor?" Give an example.
6. What was Tip O'Neill's view on intervening for social problems?
7. What is Tip O'Neill best remembered for in Northern Ireland?
8. O'Neill was outspoken with his political opinions. Explain what this has to do with the presidents mentioned here.

Writing Activity:

1. Pretend you were the constituent who received a photograph from Cannon when you requested a copy of House rules. Write a response.

2. Pretend to be Sam Rayburn. Prepare a list of tips for the next Speaker of the House based on your integrity and views.
3. Pretend to be Tip O'Neill. Write a letter to President Obama commenting on efforts to help with jobs and provide universal health care.

Art:

- Choose one of the three featured Speakers of the House. Illustrate the speaker by focusing on the subtopic and details in the paragraph. Explain your illustration to someone.
- Illustrate this description of Sam Rayburn: He "showed that the office should balance control with fairness and mediation."
- Illustrate this description of Sam Rayburn: "He was considered a bridge between the opposing members of his own Democratic party, and he was able to work with both liberals and conservatives, which furthered his influence and respect among his colleagues."

Research:

- Joseph Gurney Cannon
- Samuel Taliaferro Rayburn
- Thomas Phillip O'Neill

"Dr. D's Mystery Hero"—Historic Connection by Dennis Denenberg (Page 45)

Vocabulary: connection, privileged, opportunity, matured, rebellious, abolitionist, convinced, economically, intellectually, inception, duration, catastrophe, and tumultuous.

Comprehension Check:

1. What is the nickname for the boxer?
2. Why was George not allowed to be educated?
3. How did the mystery hero know the "Great Compromiser?"
4. Why does the author say that the mystery hero's words were "very strong words for a southerner to say in the mid-1830s?"

Writing Activity:

1. Tell how the mystery hero and Henry Clay are connected.
2. Would you rather be a mystery hero or a famous athlete? Why?

Art:

- Create a poster to promote "The Greatest" (boxer)
- Create a poster to promote "Great Compromiser" (Henry Clay)

"Herefords on the Mooove!"—Creature Feature (Back Cover)

Vocabulary: Hereford, Industrial Revolution, groomed, attention, en route, animal husbandry, progressive, matured, and consumption.

Comprehension Check:

1. Name one reason Henry Clay had Hereford cows shipped to him.
2. Where did Hereford cattle come from?
3. What happened to a Hereford bull on the trip to Ashland?
4. What is an advantage of raising Hereford cattle?

Writing Activity:

1. The author says that Henry Clay had a passion for farming and animal husbandry. Pretend that Henry is trying to persuade his wife that they should order Hereford cows and bulls. What would he say?
2. Pretend you are a Hereford cow. Write a slogan to discourage Americans from eating Hereford beef.

Art:

- Illustrate a bull decorated to discourage buyers from selecting him as a good source of beef. For example: "I'm tough as nails" or "Buy American, not British."

Research:

- Hereford cattle