

Instructional Guide for Grades 6-8

The Return of the Real: Truth, History, & Chernobyl can be modified for use in grades 6-8. The following modification corresponds with the following middle school Next Generation Sunshine State Standards:

SS.6.G.5: Understand how human actions can impact the environment.

SS.7.G.5: Understand how human actions can impact the environment.

SS.8.G.5: Understand how human actions can impact the environment.

SS.6.W.1: Utilize historical inquiry skills and analytical processes

SS.7.C.3: Demonstrate an understanding of the principles, functions, and organization of government.

Day 1:

Begin the Sway presentation at *Ch 3: So, what happened at Chernobyl?*

Begin the lesson with **Learning Activity 1** found in the lesson plan. Allow students to record in their notes 5 main events that took place according to the two news sources. As a class, have students share their events and highlight similarities and difference between sources and what was reported.

Day 2:

Begin the lesson with *Worksheet E: Primary Source Interviews*. In pairs, have students read the two primary source interviews. Students can read both interviews or teachers can have students' jigsaw the two interviews in their groups.

After the students have completed the readings, students can begin analyzing the documents using the guided Let's Discuss questions.

Day 3:

Begin the Sway presentation at *Ch 7: Materiality & Chernobyl*.

Distribute *Worksheet C: Analyzing Material Culture*.

Following **Learning Activity 3** in the lesson plan provided.

Conclusions:

Using all of their data gathered from news sources, interviews, and the material culture, have students discuss similarities and differences between what was "real" in the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. Conclude with a paragraph essay answering the research question, "*How could artifacts (the material culture) help us understand what was 'real' to the people experiencing the Chernobyl disaster?*"