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## Communication Arts Unit | Grades 7-12 | Lesson 1: Silver Dollar City Pathfinder

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### Lesson Description

If you have a question or don't know where something is around Silver Dollar City, the best place to look is the Pathfinder. Jammed packed with articles, ride information, show times, and calendars, this handy newspaper is a guests' guide to the perfect day at Silver Dollar City. In this activity, students will use the Pathfinder to find the information needed to plan a fun-filled day at Silver Dollar City.

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### Concepts

Analyzing and evaluating non-fiction works  
Graphic Organizers

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### Objectives

Students will:

- Become more familiar with Silver Dollar City's attractions.
- Use the Pathfinder to analyze and evaluate the non-fiction work.
- Create a graphic organizer.

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### Content Standards

#### Grade Level Expectations:

R1F: Apply pre-reading strategies to aid comprehension

R3A: Analyze the features of consumer texts, such as product information and instructional data to clarify meaning

W1A: Create appropriate graphic organizers to provide a structure for information

#### National Standards in Communication Arts

- **Standard 6:** Uses reading skills and strategies to understand and interpret a variety of literary texts.
  - Benchmark 1, Grades 6-8: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand a variety of literary passages and texts (e.g., fiction, nonfiction, myths, poems, fantasies, biographies, autobiographies, science fiction, drama).
  - Benchmark 1, Grades 9-12: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand a variety of literary texts (e.g., fiction, nonfiction, myths, poems, biographies,



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autobiographies, science fiction, supernatural tales, satires, parodies, plays, American literature, British literature, world and ancient literature).

- **Standard 7:** Uses reading skills and strategies to understand and interpret a variety of informational texts.
  - Benchmark 1, Grades 6-8: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand a variety of informational texts (e.g., electronic texts; textbooks; biographical sketches; directions; essays; primary source historical documents, including letters and diaries; print media, including editorials, news stories, periodicals, and magazines; consumer, workplace, and public documents, including catalogs, technical directions, procedures, and bus routes).
  - Benchmark 1, Grades 9-12: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand a variety of informational texts (e.g., textbooks, biographical sketches, letters, diaries, directions, procedures, magazines, essays, primary source historical documents, editorials, news stories, periodicals, catalogs, job-related materials, schedules, speeches, memoranda, public documents, maps).
- **Standard 4:** Gathers and uses information for research purposes.
  - Benchmark 5, Grades 6-8: Organizes information and ideas from multiple sources in systematic ways (e.g., time lines, outlines, notes, graphic representations).
  - Benchmark 6, Grades 9-12: Uses systematic strategies (e.g., anecdotal scripting, annotated bibliographies, graphics, conceptual maps, learning logs, notes, outlines) to organize and record information.

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### Time Required

Approximately 45 minutes

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### Materials

- Copy of Pathfinder for each student
  - Student activity sheet from the Kids-U-Cation website
  - Writing utensil
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### Procedures

1. Give each student a copy of the Pathfinder along with the Student Activity Sheet from the Kids-U-Cation website to answer the questions.
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2. After answering the questions, students can then enjoy a day in the park using the information they learned to help them get around.
  3. Turn in the activity sheet to the teacher for a participation or completion grade.
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### Closure

Review the key points of this lesson by discussing the following:

- How many of you have ever used the Pathfinder before?
  - Tell me something interesting you learned from the Pathfinder.
  - Was there anything you wanted to do today that you didn't get to due to time? How might you have done things differently?
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### Assessment/Independent Practice

Give an assignment or test of your choice.



Name/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Silver Dollar City Pathfinder

Use the Pathfinder to answer the following questions: Volume #: \_\_\_\_\_, Issue #: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Your class is arriving at 12:00pm on a Friday and would like to see (Based on festival: World-Fest: "Zhejiang Balancing Monks" and "Ireland's Feet of Fire"; Bluegrass & BBQ: Choose two groups performing on the day of your visit; National Kids Fest: "The Magic of Peter Gossamer" and "Jeerk"; Southern Gospel Picnic: Choose two groups performing on the day of your visit; National Harvest Festival: "The All American Cowgirl Chicks" and "Pistol Packin' Paula" OR "Wings Over Missouri" and "Missouri's Favorite Sons & Daughters"; An Old Time Christmas: "A Dicken's Christmas Carol" and "The Living Nativity" and "Christmas On Main Street"). What show times would you choose and why? Use two details from the Pathfinder to support your answer.

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2. You just finished riding the "American Plunge" and you plan to ride "Powder Keg" next but would like to eat lunch first. Name two of the closest places to eat lunch.

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3. How tall must a guest be to ride "Wildfire?" Where did you find this information? Name the area of the park where "Wildfire" is located (write down the heading).

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4. If a family would like to attend one time during "An Old Time Christmas" festival on a Wednesday, what date(s) might they plan to go?

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5. Create a graphic organizer (Venn Diagram, T Chart, etc.) to show the three different levels of rides available to guests. Include one example of each type of ride.