


## Lesson Plan

**Title:** Fur Trade Timeline

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**Magazine Issue:** This lesson is inspired by the article "Fur Trade Times" in the How Furs Built Canada issue of *Kayak: Canada's History Magazine for Kids*.

**Grade Level:** 3/4, 5/6, 7/8

### Themes:

- Exploration & Geography
- French Canada
- Economics & Trade
- Settlement & Immigration

**Subject Area:** Social Studies/Mathematics (sequencing)

### Lesson Overview (Summary):

Using the information from the article "Fur Trade Times," students will create a timeline for Canada's fur trade. This will be accomplished by playing a class game of "I Have... Who Has?"

**Time Required:** 50 minute period

### Historical Thinking Concept(s):

- Establish historical significance
- Identify continuity and change
- Analyze cause and consequence

### Learning Outcomes:

#### *Social Studies:*

- Correlate the impact of the land on the lifestyles and settlement patterns of the people;
- Identify the European influence on pre-confederation Canadian society.

#### Student will:

- Create a time line of the fur trade using cards that have dates and then the teacher can lead a discussion about how the events on the timeline fits with the world's history.

## **The Lesson Activity:**

*Activating: How will students be prepared for learning?*

The teacher will hand out the “I have ... Who has?” cards face down on students’ desks. Then the teacher will draw a timeline on the whiteboard and label the timeline. The teacher will put the first date of the game at the beginning of the timeline.

*Acquiring: What strategies facilitate learning for groups and individuals?*

The teacher will invite the students to turn over their cards and to read each card one at a time. After a card is read, the students will place the card under the timeline on the board.

*Applying: How will students demonstrate their understanding?*

The teacher will lead a class discussion and, as a class, the students will identify the six dates they believe are most important. The teacher will move those dates to the top of the timeline and circle them with a coloured whiteboard marker. Students will make their own timeline using the six key information cards.

## **Materials/Resources:**

- Copies of the “Fur Trade Times” article in the How Furs Built Canada issue of *Kayak: Canada’s History Magazine for Kids*.
- 28 “I Have ... Who Has?” cards
- Whiteboard markers
- Sticky-tack
- Blackline master for students personal timeline

## **Assessment:**

Teacher can collect evidence of student learning through the class conversation and checking the completion of the student’s personal timeline (product).

## **Extension Activity:**

Invite students to make a board game highlighting the key dates they recorded on their personal timelines. They might use a template such as the one found [here](#).

Students could play with other students from different classrooms.

# Fur Trade Times Timeline

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date	Information

I have ...

1653

The first voyageurs paddle west from Montreal.

... Who has 1660?

I have ...

1660

Radisson and Des Groseillers return from Lake Superior with 100 canoes full of furs.

... Who has 1666?

I have ...

1666

British investors, including Prince Rupert, pay for Radisson and Des Groseillers to explore a fur-trader route through Hudson Bay to avoid paying the French Taxes.

... Who has 1668?

I have ...

1668

The investors pay for Zachariah Gillam to sail the 15-metre Nonsuch through a northern route from Gravesend, England, into James Bay to Trade fur.

... Who has 1669?

I have ...

1669

Gillam returned to England after spending the winter at the mouth of the Rupert River and they brought £1,300 in furs.

... Who has 1670?

I have ...

1670

The "Governor and Company of Adventurers of England Trading into Hudson's Bay" (the Hudson's Bay Company) forms.

... Who has 1673?

I have ...

1673

HBC begin to build forts along Hudson Bay and James Bay.

... Who has 1682?

I have ...

1682

A group of Montreal Merchants forms the Compagnie du Nord to compete with HBC.

... Who has 1684?

I have ...

1684

HBC completes building forts along Hudson Bay and James Bay.

... Who has 1718?

I have ...

1713

War between England and France ends; as part of the peace treaty, the French return several HBC forts to English control.

... Who has 1715?

I have ...

1715

Rats and insects destroy the furs stored in Montreal warehouses. More furs are needed, fast.

... Who has 1768?

I have ...

1768

HBC sees huge losses as Montrealers push west to get to the First Nations before they trade with HBC.

... Who has 1774?

I have ...

1774

Samuel Hearne builds Cumberland House, the first HBC trade post inland, rather than on the coast.

... Who has 1778?

I have ...

1778

Captain James Cooke stops off the B.C. coast to trade for sea-otter fur with Indigenous peoples.

... Who has 1779?

I have ...

1779

English, Scottish and French-Canadian businessmen in Montreal form the North West Company to compete with HBC.

... Who has 1780?

I have ...

1780

An English company makes the first Hudson's Bay Company point blanket, with black stitched lines or points.

... Who has 1788?

I have ...

1788

NWC builds Fort Chipewyan on Lake Athabasca in what is now northeastern Alberta.

... Who has 1778?

I have ...

1789

Alexander Mackenzie makes it to the Arctic for the NWC.

... Who has 1793?

I have ...

1793

The Nor'Westers control more than three-quarters of fur sales: Mackenzie reaches the Pacific Ocean by land.

... Who has 1798?

I have ...

1798

HBC introduces its legendary creamy white blankets with green, red, yellow and blue stripes.

... Who has 1804?



I have ...

# 1804

NWC builds Fort William on northwestern Lake Superior to replace its fort at Grand Portage now in American territory.

... Who has 1816?

I have ...

# 1816

A battle between the two fur trading companies happens at Seven Oaks.

... Who has 1821?

I have ...

# 1821

The North West Company and the Hudson Bay Company combine.

... Who has 1825?

I have ...

# 1825

HBC sets up its first post on the west coast, Fort Vancouver, in what is now Washington State.

... Who has 1831?

I have ...

# 1820

The fur trade is about 250 years old and furs are harder to find. Silk hats become popular in Europe and HBC profits decrease.

... Who has 1831?

I have ...

# 1831

HBC establishes Lower Fort Garry, just north of Winnipeg.

... Who has 1867?

I have ...

# 1867

Canada becomes a country.

... Who has 1870?

I have ...

# 1870

Rupert's Land becomes a part of Canada when the HBC signs the Deed of Surrender. Settlers start to flow west in even-greater numbers, setting up farms, businesses and towns.