THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL

Learning Objective(s): The students will

1. Understand the purpose of President's Day.
2. Identify the contributions of Abraham Lincoln to the shaping of our nation.
3. Recognize the various ways Abraham Lincoln is honored.
4. Identify and explain the historical significance of the Lincoln Memorial.
5. Obtain information from visual sources.
6. Communicate their thoughts and ideas verbally.

TEKS: SS K.1A, 2A, 14B, 15A&B, 1.1A, 2A, 14A, 17B, 18A&B, 2.1A, 18B&E, 19A&B

Materials: LCD projector and/or computer, the Lincoln Memorial PowerPoint presentation that accompanies the lesson, a penny for each student in the class, magnifying glasses (optional), a Grab Bag full of unrelated (junk) items such as cotton ball, scissors, glue, rock, etc..

Vocabulary: bicentennial, commemorative, image, memorial, President's Day

Teaching Strategy:

1. To introduce the lesson, give each student in the class a penny. Ask them about the person pictured on the front of the coin. Lead a discussion concerning what students already know about Abraham Lincoln.

2. Tell or remind students that Americans honor the birthdays Abraham Lincoln and George Washington on President's Day. Discuss why President's Day is a national holiday.

3. Show students the first slide of the Lincoln Memorial PowerPoint presentation and explain that this year marks the 200th birthday of Abraham Lincoln.

4. Inform students that many special things are being done this year to honor the bicentennial of Lincoln's birth. A special Abraham Lincoln commemorative silver dollar was issued from January-December, 2008, and 4 commemorative stamps, which depict 4 stages of Lincoln's life, will be issued by the United States Postal Service on February 9, 2009. (Inform students that

commemorative coins and stamps are usually only produced once, in limited quantities, and are sold for a short period of time.)

5. Have students turn over their pennies and look at the image of the Lincoln Memorial. Tell students that the Lincoln Memorial was built to honor Abraham Lincoln.

6. Have students examine the penny closely, with a magnifying glass if possible, and challenge them to find Abraham Lincoln in the memorial. (The second slide in the PowerPoint presentation shows a close up of the image.)

7. Show the rest of the Lincoln Memorial PowerPoint presentation to the class. The teacher should point out details and add additional information for students, when appropriate.

8. At the conclusion of the PowerPoint presentation, have each student, or pair of students, draw an object from the Grab Bag. Instruct students to explain how their object is like some aspect of the Lincoln Memorial. (Example: The pencil is like the columns on the Lincoln Memorial because they are both straight and tall.)

Extension for Gifted/Talented: Have students design and then draw a picture of a memorial to honor an outstanding figure that they have studied. Students should be able to explain the reasons for the specific features on the memorial.