



Senate Quilt

Grades: 4-6

This lesson is based on the Women of the Oklahoma Legislature Oral History Project. It is provided courtesy of the Oklahoma Oral History Research Program (OOHRP) at the Oklahoma State University Library with generous support from the Women's Archives at OSU and the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women.

Formally established in 2007, the OOHRP has collected and preserved firsthand accounts from individuals who have witnessed historic moments. The Program explores the lives and contributions of Oklahomans from all walks of life.

The Women of the Oklahoma Legislature is one of many projects undertaken by the OOHRP. This oral history project captures and records information about female Oklahoma legislators in their own voices and provides an opportunity to reflect on their individual paths to the Capitol. It also documents more completely the presence of these women in state government.

The OOHRP invites you to explore the website (www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/wotol/) and meet the women who have played an important role in Oklahoma politics.



Oklahoma PASS Objectives

- Visual Arts 3:1 Make original works of art using a variety of materials (media), and techniques (skills), and sources for ideas. (Grades 4, 5, and 6)
- Visual Arts 3:2 Use observation, memory and imagination in making original works of art. (Grade 6)
- Visual Arts 4:2 Demonstrate respect for personal artwork and the artwork of others. (Grades 4, 5, and 6)
- Visual Arts 4:3 Demonstrate thoughtfulness and care in completion of artworks. (Grades 4, 5, and 6)
- Social Studies 1:1 Demonstrate the ability to utilize research materials, such as encyclopedias, almanacs, atlases, newspapers, photographs, visual images, and computer-based technologies. (Grade 4)
- Social Studies 1:1 Locate, gather, analyze, and apply information from primary and secondary sources using examples of different perspectives and points of view. (Grade 5)
- Social Studies 1:1 Locate, gather, and analyze information from primary and secondary sources, such as artifacts, diaries, letters, art, music, literature, newspapers, and contemporary media. (Grade 6)
- Social Studies 1:2 Identify, evaluate, and draw conclusions from different kinds of maps, graphs, charts, diagrams, timelines, and other representations such as photographs and satellite-produced images or computer-based technologies. (Grade 6)
- Information Literacy 3:1 The student will be able to organize the information in a manner that meets the need of the assignment or problem. (All grades)
- Information Literacy 3:2 The student will assimilate new information into his/her existing knowledge. (All grades)

Lesson Objective

The students will be able to create a paper quilt consisting of the names and years served of each woman who has served in the Oklahoma Senate. In 2009, there were eighteen women who had served in the Senate.

Lesson

How many of you have quilts at home? Perhaps you have a quilt on your bed. A quilt is made up of many sections called “quilt blocks”. Each block can be unique. It can be a special color. It can contain something unique. Today we are going to create a quilt using paper instead of fabric. Each quilt block will have unique information. You can design your quilt blocks so that each one is a different color. Our quilts are going to be about the women who have served in the Oklahoma Senate.

We have been learning about our Oklahoma Senate and Oklahoma House of Representatives. You remember that today (2009) we have 101 members of the House of Representatives. Today in the Senate we have 48 senators. We have over twice as many representatives as we do senators. Throughout the history of our state, we have always had more representatives than senators.

Let's take a quick look back at our state history. When did Oklahoma become a state? (1907) Our legislature started in November of 1907. They met in Guthrie, which was the state capitol at that time. Later the state capitol was moved to Oklahoma City.

At the time Oklahoma became a state, women were not allowed to vote. They could not vote in any elections throughout the United States. In America we can change our Constitution if we have a majority of states that agree. That is called an Amendment to the Constitution. We had a Constitutional Amendment that allowed women to vote. It took many years to get this amendment approved by all the states. The first election in which women could vote was in 1919. You will find out today that they elected a woman to the Oklahoma Senate that year. When you are 18 years old, you can register to vote. You will receive a voter's card, and you can then vote in elections. Every vote is important in every election.

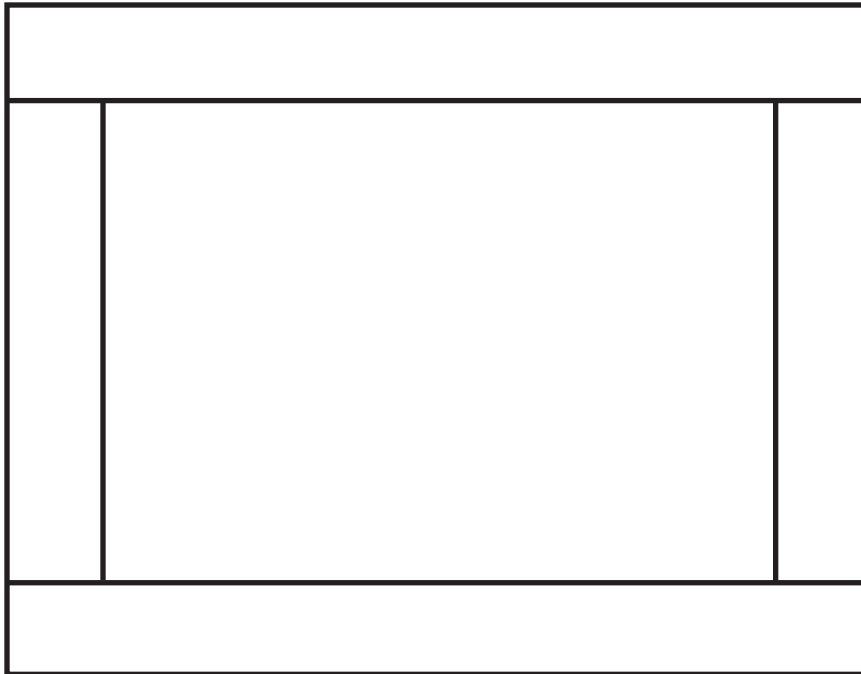
Giving a short recap, we remember that today in Oklahoma we have more than twice as many representatives as we do senators. We are going to make a quilt about the Oklahoma Senate. Each quilt block will give information about each of the women who has served in the Oklahoma Senate. (In 2009 there were 18 women who had served in the Oklahoma Senate.)

Our first step is to collect information about these women. (Pass out the Student Sheets) In looking at your Student Sheet, what does "chronologically" mean? (Allow time for student responses.) It means in order by year. We are going to search information and organize it by year. (What year were you born? What year do we live in today? Which year comes first chronologically?) The first woman who served in the Oklahoma Senate will go in the box marked "1". To the right of that, you will write the years in which the woman served.

Now we are going to move our chairs into small groups of two or three students. (Allow time for them to reorganize their chairs.) Pass out the group sheets that have the photos, names, and dates served of the Women of the Oklahoma Legislature (<http://www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/wotol/legislators.htm>) Look at the pages. Who is the first woman you see who served in the Oklahoma Senate? (Helen Cole) Put a mark beside Helen Cole's photo. Your group can mark the pages first. They can then decide the chronological order of the lady's service. Decide in your group which student will mark which pages. When you have made this decision, you may begin to mark each page.

Each group has finished this process. It is now time to put the dates of service in order. As a group, please work together and mark the correct number beside each of the eighteen women's names. (Allow class time for this process. They may share that there was a large gap in service between some of the women when they are organized chronologically.) Please look at your Student Sheets. You will write the FIRST woman who served in the Oklahoma Senate in the box marked #1. Please include the years of service. The SECOND woman who served in the Senate will go in the box marked #2, etc. (Allow time for the students to complete the Student Sheet.)

It is now time for us to return to our original seating. You will use the information from your Student Sheets to create quilt blocks. You will then assemble the quilt. I have a diagram of your quilt block. (Show this example on the Smart Board or overhead projector.)



You will receive eighteen quilt blocks—one to represent each of the women who has served in the Oklahoma Senate. You will receive a photo of each woman. (Take class time now to pass out the photos of the eighteen women who have served in the senate.) Your quilt block will contain the woman's name, the years in which she served in the senate, and her photo. You may wish to have all the lettering on each quilt block the same color. You may wish to use different colors. Either choice is fine as long as you include the following information:

NAME YEARS SERVED PHOTO

You may wish to color the inside of each quilt block. You may wish to leave it white. Look at the outside frame of the quilt block. You may wish to color that section and not color the inside. Please feel free to color your quilt blocks in any way you wish. Just remember to include the specific information about each of the eighteen women. (Take time to allow a student to come to the board and write the information about one of the women in the quilt block sample. This can remain showing as a reference to the other students.)

When you assemble your quilt blocks, you will have THREE ROWS OF SIX. That is three rows of quilt blocks across and six rows of blocks down. Begin with the FIRST woman who served in the senate and move just like you were reading a book—from left to right. The final block on the last row will be the LAST woman who has been an Oklahoma Senator.

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	12
13	14	15
16	17	18

When you assemble your quilt, trim each page of excess paper. Lay the blocks out on your desk. Arrange them in the pattern we have just shown you. We will use clear tape to tape our quilt blocks together. You may wish to tape them on the back side rather than on the front. This is your choice. Be sure to put your name on the back of your quilt. (Allow time for students to transfer the information onto their quilt blocks. Allow time for them to trim the blocks and tape them together.)

Today we learned about the women who have served in the Oklahoma Senate since we became a state in 1907. Today we have had eighteen women serve in the senate and sixty-one serve in the House of Representatives.

Evaluation

This assignment can be assessed with a rubric. You could designate a point value for each component on the quilt blocks. That number would be multiplied by 18. Points could also be given for listing each woman in chronological order—from first to last, just as our chart showed.

Materials

Teacher Supplies

- The students will need one copy of the women's photo who served in the Oklahoma Senate from this following website: <http://www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/wotol/legislators.htm> They only need eighteen photos
- Each small group will need one set of Women of the Oklahoma Legislature sheets from <http://www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/wotol/legislators.htm>

Student Supplies

- Clear tape or glue stick
- Scissors
- Tape to tape the quilt blocks together.
- Markers or crayons
- Pencils
- 9 Quilt Block sheets per student
- Each small group will need one set of Women of the Oklahoma Legislature sheets from <http://www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/wotol/legislators.htm>

Enrichment

Language Arts

- Read about the women who have served in the Oklahoma House of Representatives at: <http://www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/wotol/> Interview transcripts and also audio excerpts are available for many of these women.
- The Senate website does not have information about the Party or Senate District of each woman. This information can be found by reading the transcript excerpts from <http://www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/wotol/> If there is no transcript available for particular former senators, you could contact the Oklahoma Senate directly and inquire about specific women, such as Helen Cole, Kay Dudley, Mary Helm, or Carol Martin. This additional information could be added to your quilts at a later time.
- Ask each student in the class to write a biography about one of the women who has served in the Oklahoma Senate.

Visual Arts

- Ask the students to take a photo of a quilt that they have at home. With digital access on so many cameras and cell phones today, many students would be able to participate in this activity. They can take a photo and send it via e-mail to the teacher's school e-mail address. They can then create a PowerPoint presentation of a variety of quilts. The teacher can point out various geometric features or color schemes or the use of complementary colors in quilts.

Resource Addendum

QUILT OF THE SENATE—STUDENT SHEET

Today you will collect information about the women who have served in the Oklahoma Senate. We know that today we have 48 Senators serving across Oklahoma.

You will work in a small group to collect your information. This sheet is provided to help you organize your information. The information will be collected **CHRONOLOGICALLY**—which means that it will be in order by the year in which the woman served in the Senate. You will write information about the first woman who served in the Senate in the first boxes, the second woman who served in the second boxes, etc. You will find that some women served in both the House of Representatives and also in the Senate. We are only looking for information about the Senate in this lesson. Please write down only the years she served in the Senate.

NAME OF FORMER SENATOR	YEARS IN WHICH SHE SERVED IN SENATE
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	

List of women who have been elected to the Oklahoma Legislature:

The following women have or are currently serving in the Oklahoma Legislature, 1907-2009.
Legislators participating in this oral history project are denoted in orange.

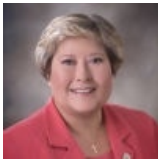
A



Lulu Anderson
House of Representatives
1922-1924



Helen Arnold
House of Representatives
1976-1982



Jari Askins
House of Representatives
1994-2006



Hannah Atkins
House of Representatives
1968-1980

B



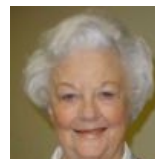
Alene Baker
House of Representatives
1980-1984



Lisa Johnson Billy
House of Representatives
2004-



Debbie Blackburn
House of Representatives
1994-2006



Betty Boyd
House of Representatives
1990-2000



Laura Boyd
House of Representatives
1992-1998

C



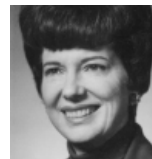
Helen Cole
House of Representatives
1978-1984
Senate
1984-1988, 1991-1996



Carolyn Coleman
House of Representatives
1990-2002



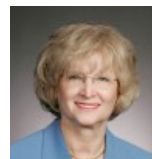
Jan Collins
House of Representatives
1984-1986



Dorothy Conaghan
House of Representatives
1973-1986



Ann Coody
House of Representatives
2004-



Marian Cooksey
House of Representatives
2004-

D



Odilia Dank
House of Representatives
1994-2006



Cleta Deatherage
House of Representatives
1976-1984



Lee Denney
House of Representatives
2004-



Kay Dudley
Senate
1986-1990

E

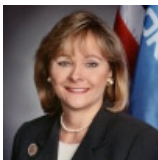


Mary Easley
House of Representatives
1996-2004
Senate
2004-

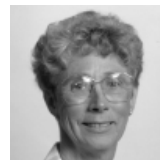


Elma Eylar
House of Representatives
1928-1930

F



Mary Fallin
House of Representatives
1990-1994



Billie Jean Floyd
Senate
1984-1988

G



Joan Greenwood
House of Representatives
1988-2004

H



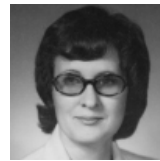
Rebecca Hamilton
House of Representatives
1980-1986, 2002-



Joan Hastings
House of Representatives
1974-1984



Texanna Hatchett
House of Representatives
1966-1972



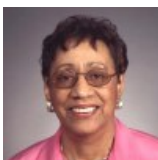
Mary Helm
Senate
1974-1978



Claudette Henry
House of Representatives
1986-1988



Mina Hibdon
House of Representatives
1973-1976



Maxine Horner
Senate
1986-2004



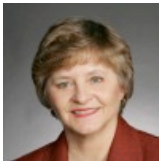
Ila Huff
House of Representatives
1940-1944

J



Constance Johnson
Senate
2005-

K



Sally Kern
House of Representatives
2004-



Maxine Kincheloe
House of Representatives
1980-1986

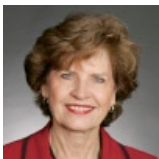
L



Linda Larason
House of Representatives
1984-1994



Anna Laskey
House of Representatives
1922-1928



Daisy Lawler
Senate
2002-2006



Debbe Leftwich
Senate
2003-



Mrs. Lamar Looney
Senate
1920-1928

M



Carol Martin
Senate
1994-2002



Twyla Mason
House of Representatives
1980-1984



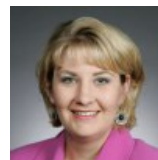
Bessie McColgin
House of Representatives
1920-1924



Jeannie McDaniel
House of Representatives
2004-



Judy Eason McIntyre
House of Representatives
2003-2004
Senate
2004-



Skye McNiel
House of Representatives
2006-



Vicki Miles-LaGrange
Senate
1986-1993



Sue Milton
House of Representatives
1984-1986



Edith Mitchell
House of Representatives
1922-1924



Grace Mitchelson
House of Representatives
1944-1948



Angela Monson
House of Representatives
1990-1993
Senate
1993-2005



Alice Musser
House of Representatives
1988-1990

O



Leslie Osborn
House of Representatives
2008-

P



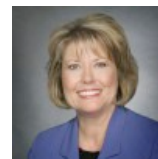
Susan Paddock
Senate
2004-



Ruth Patterson
House of Representatives
1964-1968



Wanda Jo Peltier
House of Representatives
1986-1996



Pam Peterson
House of Representatives
2004-



Anastasia Pittman
House of Representatives
2006-

R



Nancy Riley
Senate
2000-2008



Ida Robertson
House of Representatives
1924-1926

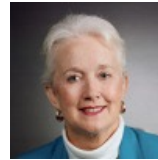


Mona Jean Russell
House of Representatives
1944-1948

S



Bernice Shedrick
Senate
1980-1996



Barbara Staggs
House of Representatives
1994-2006



Judy Swinton
House of Representatives
1974-1978

T



Pauline Tabor
House of Representatives
1962-1970



Carolyn Thompson
House of Representatives
1984-1992



Sue Tibbs
House of Representatives
2000-



Jan Turner
House of Representatives
1972-1974

V



Nancy Virtue
House of Representatives
1982-1986

W



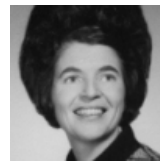
Trish Weedn
Senate
1988-2000



Vicki White
House of Representatives
1986-1990



Gladys Whittett
House of Representatives
1924-1926



Anna Belle Wiedemann
House of Representatives
1966-1972



Kathleen Wilcoxson
Senate
1996-2008



Freddy Williams
House of Representatives
1980-1990



Penny Williams
House of Representatives
1980-1988
Senate
1988-2004



Susan Winchester
House of Representatives
1998-2000