River Through the Ages

Grade Level: 3-6 (can be adapted for higher grades)

Time: one week

Concept: Observation as to how a river changes over time.

Objectives: Students will:
1. compare and contrast how the river changed over time.
2. describe how the change in the area around the river caused the changes in the river.

Materials:
River Transparencies 1-4
Chart paper, markers, glue, crayons, pencils
Observation Chart
Florida Rivers 2001 poster

Procedures:
Initiating Activity: Ask the students if they think where they live was the same 25, 50, 100 years ago. How would they describe what it might have looked like back then. Discuss what caused the change?

Strategies:
1. Put students in groups of two or three. Each student should have their own paper and pencil.
2. At the top of their paper, each student should make a column for "Human Features" and a column for "Natural Features."
3. Display each of the four transparencies for about 2-5 minutes each, in order.
4. While viewing each of the transparencies, each student should write in the appropriate column what they see.
   Example: Human Features    Natural Features
   farms                     trees
5. After viewing all of the transparencies, the group can add up all the features they have seen and put the sum at the bottom of each column. Then discuss what they saw more of and how this changed the characteristics of the river.

Culminating Activity:
Read A River Ran Wild and discuss how the river changed. Compare and contrast with the pictorial river using a Venn-Diagram. (See website for A River Ran Wild below)

Evaluation:
1. Observation
2. Observation Chart
**National Geography Standards:**
Standard 1: How to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective.
Standard 4: The physical and human characteristics of places.

**Sunshine State Standards:**
SS.A.1.1.1: compares everyday life in different places and times and understands that people, places, and things changes.
SS.A.1.2.1: understands how individuals, ideas, decisions, and events can influence history.
SS.A.2.1.1: identifies some physical and human characteristics of places.
SS.B.2.3.6: understands how the interaction between physical and human systems affects current conditions on Earth.
SS.B.2.3.4: understands how the landscape and society change as a consequence of shifting from a dispersed to a concentrated settlement form.

Web Sites:
A River Ran Wild
http://www.Sdcoe.k12.ca.us/score/river/rivertg.htm
Lesson plans and activities from San Diego County education website.
River Transparency 1
River Transparency 3
River Transparency 4