**Lesson**: Coal Industry Timeline  
**Content:** History  
**Grade:** 8-12

**Standards:**

* 8.1.12.A
* 8.2.9.C

**Resources:**

* PDF file “*emfr org lesson plan resources*”

**Materials:**

* Paper
* Magazines (optional)
* Computer (optional)
* Students' research from last lesson, current coal news articles, pictures downloaded from internet, poster boards or large roll paper, blackboard, “Background Information”

**Objectives:**

* The students will create a timeline illustrating historic changes and advances in the coal industry.
* The students will include changes in the methods of mining, plant production processes, safety measures and environmental impacts (related to land, air and water pollution, clean coal technologies, and land reclamation).

**Set-Up:**

1. Divide students into three or more groups to discuss research data from “Coal mining investigation” lesson.

**Procedure:**

1. Instruct students to gather and list specific events and dates relevant to changes in the coal industry.   
   \*For reference: teachers may use the timeline below and “Background Information.” (background information is provided in the PDF file “emfr org lesson plan resources” )  
   \*For reference: teachers may use the PowerPoint “History of Coal in Pennsylvania” to create an outline of the 3 major time periods (IR, World War 1, World War 2). This also creates and opportunity for the students to do further investigation on the impacts during this time in the United States.
2. Instruct students to include current changes in federal or state regulations, which may strengthen or weaken the coal industry in regards to public health and safety, efficiency, the environment and the economy.
3. As a class, list specific dates and briefly describe on board. Assign each group a time period to come up with rough draft of pictures illustrating the events.
4. Each group of students completes a timeline of their specific time period with small illustrations. All students should contribute a section of the timeline.
5. To allow most students to work simultaneously, a few may draw illustrations to be glued to timeline while several are writing.

**Closure:**

1. Each group's section can be pieced together to form one long timeline.

**Adaptation/Enrichment:**

* Have students listen to several coal-mining songs: [www.fortunecity.com/tinpan/parton/2/mines.html](http://www.fortunecity.com/tinpan/parton/2/mines.html)
* Discuss the role that music has played in our world (e.g., people can express their emotions, rally support for a cause and provide historical information for future generations).

**\*Reference: Coal-Energy Legislation**

1890- United Mine Workers of America formed

1891- First Federal Mine Safety statute

1910- United States Bureau of Mines founded

1941- The U.S. Coal Mine and Health Safety Act

1948- US Water Pollution Control Act

1952- Federal Coal Mine Safety Act

1955- Federal Air Pollution Control Acts began

1965- Federal Water Pollution Control Administration was created.

1969- The U.S. Coal Mine Health and Safety Act

1970- First Clean Air Act enacted

1973- Mining Enforcement and Safety Administration (MESA) founded

1977- Federal Mine Safety and Health Act

-The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act

1984- Clean Coal Technology Program instituted

1990- Clean Air Act amended

2002- Clear Skies Initiative proposed

2006- The Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response Act (Miner Act)

-New legislation related to coal technology19