

## Cornelia Connelly Timeline Lesson for Grades 5-6

Title: Timeline of Cornelia Connelly's Life

### Objective:

The students will know the important events in Cornelia Connelly's life. They will be able to identify and illustrate these events and share them with their classmates and school in the form of a visual display.

### Materials:

A Generous Love: The Life of Cornelia Connelly  
Pictures of Cornelia Connelly, her family, White Cottage, Grand Coteau, Gracemere, Darby, and each American Holy Child School  
Information about current Holy Child schools (school websites, etc.)  
Art materials (paper, crayons, markers, glue, etc.)

### Procedure:

- a. Read A Generous Love: The Life of Cornelia Connelly, with the students. This may be done as a "Read Aloud" or assigned to the children to read in groups or independently.
- b. Have a class discussion about the book, ensuring proper comprehension and giving the children an opportunity to ask questions.
- c. Tell the children that they are going to create a timeline of Cornelia Connelly's life. Come up with a class definition of a timeline, leading the students to the definition, "a table listing important events for successive years within a particular historical period".
- d. Introduce the process that they will use to make the timeline by viewing this website as a class:  
<http://www.socialstudiesforkids.com/articles/howtomakeatimeline1.htm>
- e. Divide the children into four groups. The first group will cover her early life, (1809-1836), the second group will cover Rome, Europe, and the US, (1836-1843), the third group will cover Rome and England (1843-1861), and the fourth group will cover the creation of the rest of the Holy Child schools (1861-present).
- f. Create a large vertical black line somewhere in the classroom or hallway (floor to ceiling) marked with the appropriate dates. This should be set up just as it is in the website example you showed the children. (The task of creating the timeline template could be created by the teacher or the students, but must be done in advance).
- g. Each group will work together to identify the most important events in their time period. Each student in the group will choose one event. He or she will draw a picture representing the event, write a caption for it, and place it on the timeline.

h. When all groups have completed their work, each group will present their part of the timeline to the class.

**Assessment:**

- Each student's reading and understanding of *A Generous Love: The Life of Cornelia Connelly*, as demonstrated in their participation in class discussion
- Each student's completed illustration with a correct caption, as well as their presentation to the group
- Ability to work with other group members

**Extension Activities:**

- Create a timeline of their own life in the same format
- Write a reflection on Cornelia Connelly's life after completing the timeline activity