

McRAH History Unit Project

THE RISE OF INDUSTRIAL AMERICA

by

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Time 15 days

Theme The major transformation in all aspects of American life relating to industrialization

Topics

- Origins and Evolution of Industrialization in America
- Technology and Invention
- Business and Labor
- Urbanization and Immigration

Goals

1. To look at industrialization as a multidimensional transforming event that had profound implications for the U.S. and the world
2. To use historical thinking skills through a variety of McRah strategies, including analyzing primary sources, determining cause and effect, perspective-taking activities, and analyzing a variety of texts, images, and songs.

Content Objectives

1. Students will have an understanding of the chronology of industrialization from its origins in the United States to the “second industrial revolution” in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
2. Students will have an understanding of how the Civil War, westward expansion, and the transportation and communication revolution both shaped and were shaped by industrialization.
3. Students will have an understanding of what scientific and technological discoveries fueled industrialization in America and why certain of these were more important than others. Students will also be able to identify individuals who played an important role in these discoveries and discuss their motivations, challenges, and paths to success.

4. Students will have an understanding of how the idea of free market (laissez-faire) capitalism, especially the rise of the large corporation and the trust, influenced industrialization. They will also understand why various groups increasingly called for the regulation of large corporations and of how and why the government responded to such calls.
5. Students will be able to identify several big business leaders and discuss their motivations, methods, challenges, and paths to success.
6. Students will have an understanding of how industrialization changed the nature of work, working conditions, the types of workers, and the status of workers.
7. Students will have an understanding of how industrialization shaped and was shaped by the creation and continuing evolution of labor unions. They will understand the significance of events such as the Railroad Strike of 1877, the Haymarket Riot, and the Pullman Strike and how they symbolized the reactions to the many changes taking place due to industrialization.
8. Students will have an understanding of how industrialization shaped and was shaped by urbanization and immigration and the effects this had on American society.