

Northwest History Consortium

Immigration in the 1800's

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8th Grade

National Standard

Era 6: The Development of the Industrial United States (1870-1900) / Standard 2

Standard 2: Massive immigration after 1870 and how new social patterns, conflicts, and ideas of national unity developed amid growing cultural diversity.

PROBLEM

Many push-pull factors led to a large immigration boom in the late 1800's.

SCENARIO

Immigrants risked everything to come to America for a new life. They endured long, harsh boat rides, the immigration process at Ellis Island, and many social, economic, and racial obstacles once they entered the USA. Alternately, America offered jobs, land, freedoms, and education for people who would never have those opportunities on their homeland. Additionally, horrible famines, religious persecutions, economic hardships, and dead-end life led people to risk all for the chance.

TASKS

Encourage or discourage a prospective immigrant from Europe to immigrate to the USA. Be sure to include social, cultural, political, and economic reasons.

RESOURCES

Books

“The Truth About this Country: Letters Home from New Immigrants” from Ordinary Americans: U.S. History Through the Eyes of Everyday People, edited by Linda R. Monk. New York: Hyperion Books, 1994.

“To Shut Out Foreigners: Natives Versus Immigrants” from Ordinary Americans: U.S. History Through the Eyes of Everyday People, edited by Linda R. Monk. New York: Hyperion Books, 1994.

Internet

“The History of Ellis Island.” Oracle ThinkQuest Education Foundation. 2008. Redwood Shores, CA. 18 March 2010 <<http://library.thinkquest.org/20619/Eihist.html>>.

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“The Immigrant Experience.” ©2000 – 2008. The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Incl. Ellis Island. Org. 2000 – 2010. New York, NY. 18 March 2010 <<http://www.ellisland.org/Immexp/index.asp>>.

“Push and Pull of Immigration.” ©2005. Johnstown Area Heritage Association – Education: Heritage Discovery Center. Johnstown Area Heritage Association. Org. ©2005 – 2010. Johnstown, PA. 18 March 2010 <http://www.jaha.org/edu/discovery_center/push-pull/before.html>.

“U.S. Immigration: Poland.” San Mateo – Foster City School District. 2010. Foster City, CA. 18 March 2010 <<http://www.smfc.k12.ca.us/class/laurel/lalosh/poland2.htm>>.

ASSESSMENT

- Students will be graded on a group presentation to the class persuading their prospective immigrant to either move or stay in Europe.
- Students will grade other presentations and be graded by their peers as well as the teacher.

REFERENCES/CITATIONS

“History Standards for Grades 5-12 United States.” UCLA National Center for History in the Schools. 2005. Los Angeles, CA. 21 May 2009 <<http://nchs.ucla.edu/standards/us-standards5>>.

Poort, Joia. “Immigration in the 1800's.” NWESD Organization. 2008. Anacortes, WA. 5 July 2009 <http://www.nwesd.org/1510101216191755740/lib/1510101216191755740/6.2_1800s.Immigration.Poort.8.pdf>.