

Sheltered Instruction

Toolbox for Social Studies



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Name:

Picture Walk: The Great Depression

Part A: Match the pictures to the descriptions by writing the letter for each picture next to the statement that is the best match for the picture.

Part B: Find the appropriate term for each correctly match picture and description. Write the term in the corresponding box. (Use the Word Bank provided)

| # | Letter | Description/Definition | Term |
|---|--------|--|------|
| 1 | | During the 1930s, the name for the area of the Great Plains where drought and damaging farming practices ruined the topsoil and turned it into dust. This made it impossible to farm | |
| 2 | | Programs created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and his administration set up to bring an end to the Great Depression | |
| 3 | | Borrowed money | |
| 4 | | A long and severe decline in the economy that lasted from 1929 until the start of World War II in the 1940s | |
| 5 | | A sudden and dramatic decline of the stock prices that results in the loss of a lot of money | |
| 6 | | The condition of being out of work | |

Overview: The Great Depression

America's "Great Depression" began with the dramatic crash of the stock market on "Black Tuesday", October 24, 1929 when 16 million shares of stock were quickly sold by panicking investors who had lost faith in the American economy. At the height of the Depression in 1933, nearly 25% of the Nation's total work force, 12,830,000 people, were unemployed.

Wage income for workers who were lucky enough to have kept their jobs fell almost 43% between 1929 and 1933. It was the worst economic disaster in American history. Farm prices fell so drastically that many farmers lost their homes and land. Many went hungry.

Faced with this disaster, families split up or migrated from their homes in search of work. "Hoovervilles" (named after President Hoover -- as an insult), shanty towns constructed of packing crates, abandoned cars and other cast off scraps sprung up across the Nation. Gangs of youths, whose families could no longer support them, rode the rails in box cars like so many hoboes, hoping to find a job. "Okies", victims of the drought and dust storms in the Great Plains, left their farms and headed for California, the new land of "milk and honey" where they believed all one had to do was reach out and pluck food from the trees. America's unemployed were on the move, but there was really nowhere to go. Industry was badly shaken by the Depression. Factories closed; mills and mines were abandoned; fortunes were lost. American business and labor were both in serious trouble.

Unable to help themselves the American public looked to the Federal Government. Dissatisfied with President Herbert Hoover's economic programs, the people elected Franklin D. Roosevelt as their president in 1932. Roosevelt was a bold experimenter and a man of action. Early on in his administration he assembled the best minds in the country to advise him. This group of men were known as the "Brain Trust." Within one hundred days the President, his advisors and the U.S. Congress passed into law a package of legislation, the New Deal, designed to help lift the troubled Nation out of the Depression.

Picture This – K-W-L Protocol

| Know | Want to Know | Learned |
|------|--------------|---------|
| | | |

Paragraph Frame: Cause and Effect

The reason why _____ happened was
because _____
_____ and _____.

One effect of _____ is _____.

Another effect is _____.

Because of these outcomes, _____

_____.