

Up From the Dust Learning Goals

MISSION 5: “Up from the Dust” provides rich content, context, and learning experiences to students. In addition to supporting the standards listed in the National Standards Alignment document, the game has also been constructed to help students achieve the following learning goals:

MISSION US OVERALL LEARNING GOALS

Students will:

- Learn how Americans struggled to realize the ideals of freedom, democracy, and equality
- Understand the role of ordinary men and women, including young people, in history
- Develop historical empathy
- Build understanding and critical perception to think like an historian

MISSION 5: “UP FROM THE DUST” LEARNING GOALS

Guiding Questions

The accompanying lessons are designed to support the exploration of the following questions:

1. What conditions did ordinary Americans face during the early years of the Great Depression?
2. What are some economic and natural forces that make farming difficult, and how did families in the 1920s cope with these challenges?
3. What actions did people take to cope with the economic hardship of the Great Depression?
4. How did ordinary citizens and local communities try to help those in need?
5. How did President Roosevelt and his New Deal programs try to ease the economic hardships of the Depression for many, but not all, Americans?

Historical Understandings

By playing the game and engaging with the accompanying materials, students will also be able to reach the following historical understandings:

Historical Understandings	Key Related Vocabulary and Events
In the Great Plains region during the 1920s, high crop prices encouraged farmers to plant more and more acres of wheat and other crops. But falling prices, climate problems, and unsustainable farming practices caused crop failures, and farmers faced an economic crisis.	Prologue Wheat farming mini-game drought boom bust mortgage
The Stock Market Crash of 1929 caused widespread unemployment in the U.S. With little or no income, many Americans became hungry, desperate, and even homeless.	Part 3, Riding the Rails Hooverville foreclosure destitute (Part 4)

Up From the Dust Learning Goals

Historical Understandings	Key Related Vocabulary and Events
Racial discrimination created even greater hardships for African Americans and Mexican Americans during the Great Depression and the New Deal programs did not always help them equally.	Ned Shaw and his family (Part 3) Roberto and his family (Parts 3 and 4) tenant farmer deportation
In response to the economic crisis of the Great Depression, families reduced living expenses and sought new ways to supplement income.	Dunn family decisions about borrowing money, canceling trip to California, hiring out Bill Dunn Mrs. Huff's store (credit, putting items back) Thelma's dress for the dance Decision to kill cows economize
In some cases, individuals and families reacted to the crisis by migrating (leaving home) in search of jobs and better economic opportunities.	Frank's decision to ride the rails Mitchell family's migration Ned Shaw's migration riding the rails hobo
Many Americans depended on private charities and public relief for food, shelter, and clothing to get by, and neighbors did what they could to help those in need. But these sources of assistance were not enough to meet the needs of many hungry and homeless people.	Red Cross clothing drive Soup kitchens, breadlines, and shelters experienced while riding the rails
As the economic crisis of the Great Depression worsened, the administration of President Herbert Hoover insisted that relief should only come from local sources. Many Americans gathered together to take part in collective actions, demanding a federal government response.	hunger marches and other protests Bonus Army on the dole relief
The election of Franklin Delano Roosevelt in 1932 gave hope to Americans. In the first 100 days of his presidential administration, Roosevelt and Congress launched many new programs to help alleviate suffering and put people back to work.	Researching New Deal programs for different residents of Dalhart relief work relief Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA) Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA)
Many residents of the hard hit "Dust Bowl" region of the southern Great Plains migrated in search of work to California, where farming had not been devastated by the drought.	Mitchell family's migration Ned Shaw's migration Resettlement Administration Okies

Up From the Dust Learning Goals

Historical Understandings	Key Related Vocabulary and Events
<p>As migrants streamed into California seeking work, there were more people seeking work than there were jobs harvesting the state's crops. Migrant farm workers were paid extremely low wages and lived in terrible conditions, including in camps set up by growers.</p>	<p>Selecting captions for Dorothea Lange's photographs migrant workers</p>
<p>The Farm Security Administration, a New Deal agency, hired photographers to travel around the country documenting social and economic conditions and the impact of New Deal programs.</p>	<p>Dorothea Lange</p>
<p>The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was a New Deal work relief program that put young men (aged 18-23) to work by planting trees, building parks, and teaching soil conservation techniques to farmers. The CCC brought together young men from different regions and backgrounds and provided classes, in addition to giving them the chance to work and earn money.</p>	<p>Building a cabin with other CCCers Anthony and Frank's friendship</p>