Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Immigration and Urbanization Activity

Station 1—Immigrants—Who where they? Why did they come?

1. When did immigration to the U.S. hit its peak?
2. Describe the early immigrants to America (read 1st paragraph under “The New Immigrants”).
3. Where were the immigrants of the Gilded Age from?
4. Describe these new immigrants. (Religion, literacy, democratic background)
5. How did these large numbers of immigrants affect the big cities?
6. Did most of them indent to remain in the U.S.? Why or why not?
7. Looking at the table, which 2 decades had the highest number of immigrants? How do you think these statistics impact politics today?
8. Looking at the chart, which 3 nations were the main sources of immigrants to the U.S. from 1861-1890?

Which had the least?

1. Fill in the map above according to the map provided.



Station 2—Immigrants—The Journey

1. How much did the passage cost for the average immigrant? Why is this significant?
2. What was steerage class? Describe it.
3. What do the sleeping quarters look like? How are they assigned?
4. Look at the image “German Immigrants Embark on Hamburg Steamer.” Describe what you see in this image.
5. Look at the images “Immigrants on Steerage Deck” and “Steerage Class”. From what economic class do you think these people are from? How can you tell?
6. Pretend you are an immigrant travelling on a ship in steerage class. Write a 4-6 sentence journal of your experience.

Station 3—Ellis & Angel Island

1. Where was Ellis Island?

Where was Angel Island?

1. Which one was the busiest immigration inspection station? Why do you suppose it was the busiest?
2. Describe Ellis Island.
3. If you were an arriving immigrant and this was the first building you saw, what impression would you have of the U.S.? (See the images and the reading)
4. As a result of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, what happened to many Chinese immigrants?
5. Describe the questioning that occurred at Angel Island. What was the purpose?
6. Describe the experiences of immigrants at Angel Island.
7. Go to the map for Station 1 and label an approximate location for Angel Island and Ellis Island.
8. Draw a caricature of a European immigrant at the turn of the century. Label at least 2 things on the immigrant—such as the clothing, possessions, expression… in order to show what a typical immigrant might have felt.

Station 4—Immigrants—Inspection and Interrogation

1. What was the purpose of the questions that the Chinese immigrants were faced with on Angel Island?
2. What was the difference between Ellis Island and Angel Island?
3. How did the Chinese immigrants feel? Why?
4. What was the purpose of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882?
5. What were “paper sons” and “paper daughters”? What were the costs?
6. Describe the inspection process.
7. Which poem did you feel was the most moving? Why? What part?
8. Write your own poem as if you were an immigrant being held at Angel Island. It needs to be at least 4 lines long.

Station 5—Resistance Toward Immigration

1. Who welcomed the immigrants?

Who did not? Why not?

1. “Nativists” were those who were against immigrants coming to America. What 2 nationalities were restricted entrance to America?
2. What other groups were barred from entrance? Why do you suppose the groups were barred?
3. How do you think immigration affected America?
4. What do you think it means that “America was a melting pot?”
5. Look at the political cartoon. Who is the man coming down the gangplank?

What are the men on the dock are trying to tell the arriving immigrant?

What do the shadows represent?

Why might Americans have these feelings toward foreigners?

1. Write a response to the newspaper editorial. It should be 3-4 sentences.

Station 6—Immigration Leads to Diversity

1. Who were the first immigrants that came over to America?
2. Read the lines that are inscribed at the food of the Statue of Liberty. Why do you think these words were put there?
3. Where do most immigrants today come from?
4. How do expert predict the demographics of America to look in 2050?
5. What states have the most immigrants?
6. Look on the map; what percentage of Denver’s population is foreign born?
7. Look at the bar graph; what region of the world has the most naturalized citizens?
8. Read over the sample 100 questions for a current citizenship test. How do you think you would do if you were given this test?
9. Pick 3 of them to answer.
10. Write 2 of your own questions that you think might be good for a citizenship test.

Station 7—Inventions

1. How do you think Alexander Graham Bell’s invention changed things for the world?
2. What was the Bessemer Process?
3. Describe the Wright brothers’ process they went through to finally get a craft that would fly.
4. How did George Eastman change photography?
5. Look at the list of inventions. Which 3 do you think are the most important? Why?
6. Look at the advertisement for a Kodak camera. What part of the advertisement helped sell the most cameras?
7. Create a brief advertisement based on one of the inventions from the list that would appeal to the average American.

Station 8—Slums and Sanitation

1. What was tenement housing?
2. What occurred because of the overcrowding? How did this affect babies?
3. Describe urban sanitation issues.
4. What was the issue with trash?
5. Why did some of these people resort to crime?
6. Look at the image of the crowded Italian neighborhood. What do you think would be some of the positive aspect of living in a neighborhood like this (one that was all Italian—or one where everyone is of a similar ethnic background)?

What would be the negative aspects?

1. Look at the image of the “Five Cents a Spot Lodging.” Who are the people in the picture?

Why do you think so many of them are sleeping in the same room?

Why do you think this type of lodging was called “nickel a spot?”

1. Pretend you are an immigrant in the picture “Five Cents a Spot Lodging.” Write a 3-4 sentence letter back home to describe your new life in the U.S.

Station 9—City Issues

1. Describe the innovations in transportations and how they affected the cities.
2. What was the issue with water in cities?
3. How was water quality improved?
4. What city had the first police force? What was its impact on crime?
5. What issues in cities caused them to have so many fires?
6. What occurred to help decrease the amount of fires?
7. Compare the Great Chicago Fire with the San Francisco Earthquake.

Which cause the most destruction?

Which killed the most people?

1. How do you think theses fire impact these two cities?
2. Pick one of the 4 issues in cities. Create a political cartoon depicting this issue in American cities. (Make sure you label it.)

Station 10—Mass Culture

1. Why did cities begin to set aside areas for parks?
2. Why did the bicycle appeal to women at this time? How did it help change things for women?
3. Where did retail shopping centers tend to be built?
4. What was the first department store? (hint: the name of the store is the guy’s 1st and last name—it is really big in the North and East Coast)
5. Who was he specifically appealing to with the design of his stores?
6. What is a chain store? What was the first chain store?
7. Who did Montgomery Wards and Sears specifically appeal to? Why?
8. Look at the map of Central Park. What do you notice about the design of the park? (Look at the various elements of the park and consider the fact that it is in a very urban area.)
9. Look through the images of pages from an old Sears Catalog. If you had $10, what would you spend it on based on these pages of the catalog?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Item: | Cost: |
|  |  |

1. Based on the pages from the catalog, think TWO other items from this time period that might have been a big seller in the Sears Catalog. Draw a picture of each item and give each a price. (Use the prices of the other items as a guide to setting your own prices.)