Immigration: 

at the “Turn of the Century”

SS5H3d: The student will describe how life changed in America at the turn of the century.
d: Describe the reasons people emigrated to the United States, from where they emigrated, and where they settled.

SS5G2a: The student will explain the reasons for the spatial patterns of economic activities.
a. Explain how factors such as population, transportation, and resources influenced industrial location in the United States between the end of the Civil War and 1900

SS5E3b: The student will describe how consumers and businesses interact in the United States economy across time.
b. Describe how people can earn income by selling their labor to businesses.
What is an immigrant?

• A person who moved to the U.S. from a foreign land
  
  • foreign land is a country or area that is not on U.S. soil

• How many immigrants came to the U.S. between the years 1870-1900?

  12 Million
Why were these people moving to America?

• Many of them faced poverty, disease, starvation, and persecution in their homelands.

• They hoped America would be, “The Land of Opportunity.”

Many immigrants still feel this way today!
How did these immigrants affect the United States?

• They spoke different languages,

• They practiced different religions,

• And had different customs.

Many Americans thought the immigrants’ ways of life were strange. The immigrants were not always accepted by U.S. citizens.
Why did so many immigrants settle in large cities like NYC?

The population in larger cities like NYC grew a lot during this time.

• There were a large number of factories and industries that needed workers.

• The immigrants went to larger cities because they had a better chance of finding work because of the numerous jobs available. The immigrants sold their labor to businesses to earn income.

Labor: the work people do

Income: how much money you make; how much you are paid by your employer
Where did they live?

Tenements:
Cheap, dirty, over crowded apartments;
often housed more than 1 family in each

Ghettoes:
Neighborhoods where immigrants from the same country lived
Ghettoes often had: poor sanitation, unclean air, & disease
How did the large population of immigrants affect the North’s economy?

The North relied heavily on factories and industrial type businesses.

1st • The immigrants provided labor for the factories.

2nd • More workers meant more products were produced.

3rd • If more products were produced and sold, then the factories made more money.

4th • If the factories made more money, they could pay their workers a higher income.

5th • If the workers made more money, they could spend more in the markets and BOOST the economy.

The larger the population of people, the more consumers!***
How did the North’s industrial way of life affect the immigrants’ migration patterns toward these larger cities?

• There were a large number of possible jobs.

• The available jobs did **not** necessarily require education or experience.

• It is also possible that many immigrants found jobs where speaking English was not required.
Writing Assignment:

You are going to write from the point of view of an immigrant during the “Turn of the Century.”

Answer the following questions in 3-5 complete sentences, total.

Base your answers on facts!

• What country would you come from?
• Where would you settle in America? Why?
• What type of job would you look for and accept? Why?