Curriculum Guide

“This Great Nation Will Endure”: Photographs of the Great Depression

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

“This Great Nation Will Endure”: Photographs of the Great Depression

Thumbnails: FSA Photographs

Dorothea Lange, September 1939.

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The Pare Lorentz Film Center at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

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## Table of Contents

Curriculum Guide Objectives ........................................ 2  

What Does It Mean to Think Historically? ......................... 3  

How are Historical Records Helpful in Teaching? ............... 4  

Overview: The Farm Security Administration .................... 5  
  - Photographer Biographies  
  - Geographic Regions  
  - The Skull Controversy  
  - The Photo Project Goes to War  
  - Saving the FSA Photographs  
  - Photographs as Historic Evidence  

Overview: The Great Depression .................................. 21  

Overview: The New Deal ........................................... 23  

 Thumbnails: FSA Photographs .................................... 25  

Related Documents .................................................. 32  
  - FDR’s Inaugural Address  
  - Stryker’s Shoot Scripts  

Vocabulary .................................................................... 33  

Teaching Activities and Assignments ............................... 37  
  - History Activities  
  - Fine Arts Activities  
  - Civics, Citizenship, and Government Activities  
  - Writing and Journalism Activities  
  - Geography Activities  
  - Hands-on Learning Activities  
  - Photograph Analysis Worksheet  
  - Document Analysis Worksheet  
  - Map Template
“This Great Nation Will Endure”: Photographs of the Great Depression

Thumbnails: FSA Photographs

This curriculum guide contains a complete class set of FSA photographs. So that students may draw their own conclusions about the meaning and significance of the images, we have deliberately not identified the place, date, subject or photographer on the student copies. These thumbnails provide that information and can be shared with the students at the teacher’s discretion.

Arthur Rothstein
*Farmers at auction, Zimmerman farm near Hastings, Nebraska.*
March 1940

Arthur Rothstein
*Father and Sons Walking in the Face of a Dust Storm.*
April 1936

Russell Lee
*Tent home of family living in a community camp, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.*
July 1939

Russell Lee
*Christmas dinner in the home of Earl Pauley near Smithfield, Iowa. Dinner consisted of potatoes, cabbage and pie.*
December 1936
"This Great Nation Will Endure": Photographs of the Great Depression

Russell Lee
Transient Mexican worker's family from Texas. East Grand Forks, Minnesota.
September 1937

Dorothea Lange
Dust Bowl farm, Coldwater District, north of Dalhart, Texas. This house is occupied; most of the houses in this district have been abandoned.
June 1938

Russell Lee
Daughter and son of [an] agricultural day laborer living near Webbers Falls, Oklahoma. The furnishings of this shack were meager and broken and filthy. Muskogee County, Oklahoma.
June 1939

Dorothea Lange
Mexican migrant woman harvesting tomatoes, Santa Clara Valley, California.
November 1938

Dorothea Lange
Family who traveled by freight train, Toppenish, Yakima Valley, Washington.
August 1939
“This Great Nation Will Endure”: Photographs of the Great Depression

Dorothea Lange
*Toward Los Angeles, California.*
March 1937

Dorothea Lange
*Unemployment benefits aid begins. Line of men inside a division office of the State Employment Service office at San Francisco, California, waiting to register for benefits on one of the first days the office was open.*
January 1938

Dorothea Lange
*Migrant Mother.*
February 1936

Russell Lee
*Labor contractor's crew picking peas, Nampa, Idaho.*
June 1941

Dorothea Lange
*Migrant workers' camp, outskirts of Marysville, California. The new migratory camps being built by the Resettlement Administration will remove people from unsatisfactory living conditions such as these and substitute at least the minimum of comfort and sanitation.*
April 1935
“This Great Nation Will Endure”: Photographs of the Great Depression

Ben Shahn
A destitute family, Ozark Mountains area, Arkansas.
October 1935

Ben Shahn
Untitled [Pulaski County, Arkansas].
October 1935

Arthur Rothstein
Picking beans, Belle Glade, Florida.
January 1937

Edwin Rosskam
Sugar workers taking a drink of water on a plantation, Ponce (vicinity), Puerto Rico.
January 1938

Edwin Rosskam
Funeral of a child, Ponce, Puerto Rico.
January 1938
“This Great Nation Will Endure”: Photographs of the Great Depression

Arthur Rothstein
Tenant farmer moving his household goods to a new farm, Hamilton County, Tennessee.
1937

Arthur Rothstein
State highway officials moving evicted sharecroppers away from roadside to area between the levee and the Mississippi River, New Madrid County, Missouri.
January 1939

Marion Post Wolcott
Child of migratory packinghouse workers, Belle Glade, Florida.
February 1939

Dorothea Lange
Cotton sharecroppers, Greene County, Georgia. They produce little, sell little, buy little.
June 1937

Walker Evans
Houses, Atlanta Georgia.
March 1936
“This Great Nation Will Endure”: Photographs of the Great Depression

Marion Post Wolcott
*Children and old home on badly eroded land near Wadesboro, North Carolina.*
December 1938

Ben Shahn
*Cotton pickers, Pulaski County, Arkansas.*
October 1935

Marion Post Wolcott
*Children in the bedroom of their home, Charleston, West Virginia. Their mother has tuberculosis.*
September 1938

Arthur Rothstein
*Homes of oyster packinghouse workers, Shellpile, New Jersey.*
October 1938

Russell Lee
*Unemployed workers in front of a shack with Christmas tree, East 12th Street, New York, New York.*
January 1938

Ben Shahn
*Young boy who salvages coal from the slag heaps, Nanty Glo, Pennsylvania.*
1937
“This Great Nation Will Endure”: Photographs of the Great Depression

Russell Lee
House in an African American section of Chicago.
April 1941

Ben Shahn
Family on relief near Urbana, Ohio.
April 1938

Arthur Rothstein
Employment agency, Sixth Avenue, New York, New York.
December 1937

Arthur Rothstein
Girl picker at cranberry bog, Burlington County, New Jersey. Three-fourths of the cranberry pickers are children.
October 1938

John Vachon
Untitled [Migrant fruit workers from Arkansas in Berrien County, Michigan].
July 1940