



File II

Activity I - DBQ's Photo's & Questions

Photo 1: Children invent games playing with old tires

Photo 2: A migratory family

Photo 3: A mother working in her kitchen while watching her children play with eggs.

Photo 4: A tenant farmer and his family

Photo 5: A dust storm

Photo 6: After the dust storm

Pre-visit - Activity I



Document Based Questions & Essays: Depression Era

Materials provided:

Depression Era Photographs – DBQ's

Franklin D. Roosevelt Photographs – DBQ's

Teacher Key: (The same questions are found with the photographs for the student hand-outs).

Ask students to examine the photograph and answer the following questions:

Photograph #1: Children invent games playing with old tires, due to lack of any other available toys.

What are the children wearing?

Do their cloths look worn? Why couldn't they buy new ones?

During the Depression most people had little money for entertainment.

What do you think most children did for entertainment during this time?

How do you think the one boy without a tire feels?

Do you think the others shared?

Do you think they were able to listen to the radio or go to movies?

Did they have Television?

Did these children go to school?

Do you think they had much money for schoolbooks?

What else do you notice about this photograph?

Essay Question:

If you were growing up during the Depression what kind of recreational games could you invent? How would you feel if your parents had no money for toys, clothing, shelter, medicine, or food? How do you think you would deal with the situation? Are there any places in the world today where people have little money for food, clothing, shelter or health care? Where and what is the situation? What could you do to help?

Photograph #2: A migratory family

What was their house made of? Who built it and why?

How many rooms do you think they had?

Where did they get their water and food?

Where did they cook their meals?

How did they keep warm on cold days?

Did they have electricity?

Where did they bathe?

Is everyone wearing shoes?

Did they have a pet?

Photograph #2 continued

Did they live in a city or town? Whose property were they living on?

Did they have neighbors?

Do they look like a happy family?

Essay Question:

Based on the photograph, caption, and your knowledge of social studies write a story, or letter from the perspective of the mother or the children. Include the answers to the following questions. How do you think they felt? What do you think they most wanted for themselves and their family? Why were they having so much trouble? What was going on in the rest of the country? Who might they write to for help, the president, the first lady? Why? Describe the impact the Depression had on this family and other families in the country. Use evidence from this document to support your response.

Photograph #3: A mother working in her kitchen while watching her children play with eggs.

Does this family look like they have enough food, clothing and shelter?

Why do you think there are so many pots, apples and eggs in the kitchen?

Do you think they had their own garden and chickens?

How did people store their food during the depression?

What kind of food do you think they are getting ready to store, and how will they store it?

What kind of fuel do you think was needed for the stove? Did it cost money?

Do you think this was a wealthy or poor family?

Can you find the electric refrigerator, a milk bottle, salt and pepper shaker, hanging coat, coffeepot, and floured dishrag?

Essay Question:

Based on the photograph what conclusions can you draw about this family? Look closely behind the woman in the photograph, what words can you read on the wall? What do you think the words stood for during the depression? What do you think it meant to this family? Do you think families needed to be conservative? Why? Who do you think the photographer was?

Photograph #4: A tenant farmer and his family

What is the first thing you notice about this picture?

Do you think this family had electricity in the home? What evidence is there?

Do you think this is a poor, average, or wealthy family?

Do you think this family felt fortunate to have the food they did?

Does this look like a happy family? Given what was happening in the country at the time, why or why not?

Essay Question:

When this family met hard times how do you think they managed things and what might have been their attitude? What makes you think this way? What can you tell about the mother of the household? If you were one of the teenagers in this photo how would you feel? Would you have thought there was a way that things could get better? How would you have found out about

Photograph #4 continued

what was going on in the rest of the country? Would you have cared about the New Deal policies that President Roosevelt was creating? Why?

Photograph #5 A dust storm

What does this picture convey to you about the dust bowl and the depression era?

Why would people abandon their farms?

What were some of the factors that caused the dust bowl?

What did President Franklin D. Roosevelt do to fix the problems when he came into office in 1933?

How could this president have such a keen understanding of farming and better agricultural practices?

Essay Question:

Based on your knowledge of social studies and by studying this photograph what do you think the photographer was trying to convey to the viewer? What in the photograph stands out to you?

Photograph #6 After the dust storm

What were the causes of the dust bowl?

(Causes of the dust bowl were: Poor land management practices, lack of basic soil conservation practices, history of over grazing, soil types subject to over erosion, failure to change crops when conditions required, new technologies caused unsustainable farming practices).

Other Photographs:

Aftermath of dust storm

FRD Photo's & Inaugural Address



Photograph # 1

Photograph # 1



El Cerrito, San Miguel Co. NM
USDA Photo by: Rusinow
www.usda.gov/oc/photo/00df0854.htm
Date: April 10 – 16, 1941
Public Domain

Document Based Questions:

Ask the students to examine the photograph and answer the following questions.

- What are the children wearing?
- Do their clothes look worn? Why couldn't they buy new ones?
- During the Depression most people had little money for entertainment. What do you think most children did for entertainment during this time?
- How do you think the one boy without a tire feels?
- Do you think the others shared?
- Do you think they were able to listen to the radio or go to movies?
- Did they have Television?
- Did these children go to school?
- Do you think they had much money for schoolbooks?
- What else do you notice about this photograph?

Essay Question:

If you were growing up during the Depression what kind of recreational games could you invent? Invent your own game based on the resources you see in this photograph. How would you feel if your parents had no money for toys, clothing, shelter, medicine, or food? How do you think you would deal with the situation? Are there any places in the world today where people have little money for food, clothing, shelter or health care? Where and what is the situation? What could you do to help?



Photograph # 2

Photograph # 2



A migratory family living in a trailer in an open field near Arizona Highway 87.

On Arizona Highway 87, South of Chandler, Arizona, USDA Photo by: Dorothea Lange

www.usda.gov/oc/photo/00di0945.htm

Date: November 1940, Public Domain

Document Based Questions:

Ask the students to examine the photograph and answer the following questions.

- What was their house made of? Who built it and why?
- How many rooms do you think they had?
- Where did they get their water and food?
- Where did they cook their meals?
- How did they keep warm on cold days?
- Did they have electricity?
- Where did they bathe?
- Is everyone wearing shoes?
- Did they have a pet?
- Did they live in a city or town? Whose property were they living on?
- Did they have neighbors?
- Do they look like a happy family?

Essay Question:

Based on the photograph, caption, and your knowledge of social studies write a story, or letter from the perspective of the mother or the children. Include the answers to the following questions. How do you think they felt? What do you think they most wanted for themselves and their family? Why were they having so much trouble? What was going on in the rest of the country? Who might they write to for help, the president, the first lady? Why? Describe the impact the Depression had on this family and other families in the country. Use evidence from this document to support your response.



Photograph # 3

Photograph # 3



A mother working in her kitchen while watching her children play with eggs.

USDA Photo by: Unknown

www.usda.gov/oc/photo/00di0907.htm

Date: November 1941

Public Domain

Document Based Questions:

Ask the students to examine the photograph and answer the following questions.

- Does this family look like they have enough food, clothing and shelter?
- Why do you think there are so many pots, apples and eggs in the kitchen?
- Do you think this picture was posed?
- Do you think they had their own garden and chickens?
- How did people store their food during the depression?
- What kind of food do you think they are getting ready to store, and how will they store it?
- What kind of fuel do you think was needed for the stove? Did it cost money?
- Do you think this was a wealthy or poor family?
- Can you find the electric refrigerator, a milk bottle, salt and pepper shaker, hanging coat, coffeepot, and floured dishrag?

Essay Question:

Based on the photograph what conclusions can you draw about this family? Look closely behind the woman in the photograph, what words can you read on the wall? What do you think the words stood for during the depression? What do you think it meant to this family? Do you think families needed to be conservative? Why? Who do you think the photographer was?



Photograph # 4

Photograph # 4



A tenant farmer and his family, of Pomp Hall, eating breakfast consisting of Cornflakes, biscuits, fried bacon, milk and coffee.

USDA Photo by: Russell Lee

www.usda.gov/oc/photo/00di1366.htm

Location: Creek County, Oklahoma

Date: February 1940

Public Domain

Document Based Questions:

Ask the students to examine the photograph and answer the following questions.

What is the first thing you notice about this picture?

Do you think this family had electricity in the home? What evidence is there?

Do you think this is a poor, average, or wealthy family?

Do you think this family felt fortunate to have the food they did?

Does this look like a happy family? Given what was happening in the country at the time, why or why not?

Essay Question:

When this family met hard times how do you think they managed to get by? What might their attitude have been like and why? What can you tell about the mother of the household? If you were one of the teenagers in this photo how would you feel? Would you have thought there was a way that things could get better? How would you have found out what was going on in the rest of the country? Would you have cared about the New Deal policies that President Roosevelt was creating? Why?



Photograph # 5

Photograph # 5



U.S. Resettlement Administration land use project. Mills, NM

USDA Photo by: Dorothea Lange
www.usda.gov/oc/photo/01di1328.htm

Date: April 1935
Public Domain

Document Based Questions:

Ask the students to examine the photograph and answer the following questions. The answers should help the student write the essay.

What does this picture convey to you about the dust bowl and the depression era?

Why would people abandon their farms?

What were some of the factors that caused the dust bowl?

What did President Franklin D. Roosevelt do to fix the problems when he came into office in 1933?

How could this president have such a keen understanding of farming and better agricultural practices?

Essay Question:

Based on your knowledge of social studies and by studying this photograph what do you think the photographer was trying to convey to the viewer? What in the photograph stands out to you?



Photograph # 6

Photograph # 6



U.S. Resettlement Administration land use project.

Mills, NM, USDA Photo by:

www.usda.gov/oc/photo/01di1328.htm

Date: April 1935, Public Domain

Document Based Questions:

Ask the students to examine the photograph and answer the following questions. The answers should help the student write the essay.

What does this picture convey to you about the dust bowl and the depression era?

Why would people abandon their farms?

What were some of the factors that caused the dust bowl?

What did President Franklin D. Roosevelt do to fix the problems when he came into office in 1933?

How could this president have such a keen understanding of farming and better agricultural practices?

Essay Question:

Based on your knowledge of social studies and by studying this photograph what do you think the photographer was trying to convey to the viewer? What in the photograph stands out to you?



Photo Courtesy of FDR Presidential Library



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