



## ***Triumph Over Tragedy: The Great Depression and New Deal Era in North Louisiana***

**Louisiana State Exhibit Museum**  
3015 Greenwood Rd  
Shreveport LA 71109  
318-632-2020

**Grades** **K-4**

**Subject** Louisiana History & American History

**Time:** One to two days of introduction to the 1930's, what the students will be viewing, one day for a field trip to LSEM, one day of follow up in class and to do class activity

K-4 students are invited to the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum to take a step back in time and learn about Louisiana life in the 1930's. Exhibits will highlight the Great Depression, Huey P. Long, the opening of Barksdale Airfield, as well as life and style of the 1930's.

### **Benchmarks**

- \*Describing how the physical and human characteristics of places change over time (G-1B-E3)
- \* Identifying and describing some of the major responsibilities of local, state, and national governments (C-1A-E4)
- \*Recognizing that limited resources require people to make decisions (E-1A-E1)
- \* Demonstrating how economic wants affect decisions about using goods and services (E-1A-E3)
- \*Explaining the relationships among producers and consumers (E-1A-E5)
- \*Identifying different methods for the distribution of goods and services, including the concept of markets (E-1A-E9)
- \*Identifying some of the economic institutions, such as households and banks, that make up the economy (E-1A-E10)
- \*Explaining how changes in price affect incentives to produce, consume and save (E-1B-E2)
- \*Demonstrating an understanding of the concepts of time and chronology (H-1A-E1)
- \* Recognizing that people in different times and places view the world differently (H-1A-E2)
- \* Describing and comparing family life in the present and the past (H-1B-E1)
- \* Identifying the development of democratic principles and discussing how these principles have been exemplified by historic figures, events, and symbols (H-1C-E3)

## **Pre Visit Activity**

Introduce students to the 1930's; highlighting the Great Depression, the Dust Bowl, and Huey P. Long.

Explain to the students that the class will be visiting the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum to view an exhibit on the 1930's and the era of the Great Depression. Tell the students they will examine exhibits that depict North Louisiana in the 1930's and explain how these exhibits reveal information by providing a glimpse into the past.

Explain to students that after they visit the LSEM they will be discussing what they have toured and given a follow up activity. Go over proper etiquette students should use during their museum visit.

### **Museum Etiquette**

- Have your students use their “library” voice when in a museum or gallery.
- No running in a museum or gallery.
- Please keep your feet off the ledge and on the red tile (floor) when standing around the center contour map.
- Students need to stay with your group, class, or teacher.
- If you have any questions, please ask one of the museum tour guides.
- When entering the auditorium for a program, please keep your class in a single-file line separate from other classes and schools near the Exit sign over the exit doors entering the breezeway.
- Wait for a tour guide to give you instructions.

### **Museum Field Trip Activity**

Make copies of the LSEM Viewing Journal, one per student

Explain to students that they will be filling out these journals as they view the exhibits

### **Post Visit Activity**

Discuss student impressions of the LSEM exhibit on the 1930's. Ask students to describe differences between the time period viewed and the present.

Ask students to write a short journal entry on one of the following topics:

- Who was Huey P. Long
- What life would have been like growing up in the 1930's in Louisiana
- Things that helped keep Caddo Parish and Bossier Parish from feeling the extreme effects of the Great Depression

Students may refer back to their Exhibit viewing journal for additional help in writing the journal entry.

Distribute copies of the Then and Now activity sheet. Break into groups of 3-4 students and using copies of sale papers complete the sheet. Once completed discuss as a class the difference in prices from the 1930's to the present.

## Then and Now: Prices

Study the column below. In the left column there is a list of items, in the middle column the price of each of the items is listed based on it's price from 1932-1934, in the last column students should fill in the cost of modern day items and then make comparisons.

<b>Then and Now: Prices</b>		
<b>WOMEN'S CLOTHES</b>	<b>THEN</b>	<b>NOW</b>
Winter Coat	\$28.00	
Leather or Suede Bag	\$2.25	
Bathrobe	\$1.00	
Sweater	\$1.00	
<b>MEN'S CLOTHES</b>	<b>THEN</b>	<b>NOW</b>
Silk Neck Tie	\$0.55	
Wool Sweater	\$1.00	
Bathrobe	\$4.90	
Overcoat	\$18.50	
<b>GAMES AND TOYS</b>	<b>THEN</b>	<b>NOW</b>
Tricycle	\$3.98	
Catcher's Mitt	\$1.19	
BB Air Rifle	\$0.79	
Doll	\$1.95	
<b>ITEMS FOR THE HOME</b>	<b>THEN</b>	<b>NOW</b>
Vacuum Cleaner	\$44.00	
Sewing Machine	\$23.95	
Electric Washing Machine	\$33.50	
Waffle Iron	\$17.95	

Louisiana State Exhibit Museum  
**Triumph Over Tragedy Viewing Journal**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Use information you gain from the exhibit at the LSEM to complete this viewing journal.

**Part One: Introduction to the 1930's in North Louisiana**

1. Walk through the *Triumph over Tragedy Exhibit* to get an overview on major themes that the exhibit illustrates about the 1930's. List two themes in the blanks below.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What are some examples of clothing popular in the 1930's?
3. How do these examples of clothing differ from clothes today?
4. What are some noticeable differences between the 1930's living room and a living room today?
5. What is one thing you can learn about Huey P. Long from his exhibit?

**Part Two: Select one part of the exhibit to examine in detail**

6. I chose to examine \_\_\_\_\_

7. List some things you have learned just from studying this particular part of the exhibit

8. How does this part of the exhibit help you identify with this period in time?

9. Write 2-3 sentences on why you feel the LSEM exhibit on North Louisiana in the 1930's is important and useful.

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