



New Deal: Lesson Plan

Topic	
Franklin Delano Roosevelt introduced the New Deal as a proposed solution to the Great Depression in his speech accepting the Democratic nomination for president in 1932. Roosevelt pledged to “a new deal for the American people,” which came to mean a series of domestic policies, programs, and projects designed to address the Great Depression with a combination of relief, recovery, and reform efforts.	
Possible subjects/classes	Time needed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History • Social Studies • Economics 	45-60 minutes
Video link:	
https://academy4sc.org/video/the-new-deal-americas-alphabet-soup/	
Objective: <i>What will students know/be able to do at the end of class?</i>	
Students will be able to... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline the New Deal's major programs • Explain the New Deal's impact on the role of the American federal government 	
Key Concepts & Vocabulary	
Great Depression, Keynesian economics	
Materials Needed	
Computers with Internet access	
Before you watch	
Turn & Talk: Ask students to discuss with a partner how they think the Great Depression ended.	



While you watch

1. Which president led the New Deal? What party did he represent? When did he take office?
2. Name three "alphabet soup" programs .
3. Name one New Deal program that still exists in the U.S. today.

After you watch/discussion questions

1. Which social groups were left out of the New Deal?
2. Can you think of any relief, recovery, or reform programs that have been put into place in your lifetime?
3. If you had to design a program similar to those enacted during the New Deal in today's economy, what would it look like? What group would you target? What issues would it address?

Activity Ideas

- Have students get into pairs/small groups and research a major New Deal program (listed on the worksheet). Have each group put together a brief Powerpoint presentation on their program and share with the class.
- Have students write a one-page paper responding to the prompt: If you could enact a government spending program similar to the New Deal programs to address an issue in your community, what would you choose and why?

1. Sources/places to learn more

1. History.com Editors. "New Deal." History.com, A&E Television Networks, 29 Oct. 2009, www.history.com/topics/great-depression/new-deal.
2. Johnston, Matthew. "The Economic Effects of the New Deal." Investopedia, Investopedia, 30 Apr. 2020, www.investopedia.com/articles/investing/011116/economic-effects-new-deal.asp.
3. Amadeo, Kimberly. "New Deal Summary, Programs, Policies, and Its Success." The Balance, 2020, www.thebalance.com/fdr-and-the-new-deal-programs-timeline-did-it-work-3305598.