

# THE HUMAN IMPACT OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION

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*How did ordinary Americans  
endure the hardships of  
the Great Depression?*

- Brother, Can you Spare a Dime?
- Is the song's tempo fast or slow? How does the tempo make you feel?
- What did the singer do before the Great Depression? What is he doing now?
- In what ways does the photograph reflect what you hear and feel when listening to the song?
- Thinking about the song and the photograph, in what ways do you think people might have endured the hardships of the Depression?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eih67rIGNhU>

# ROADTRIP!





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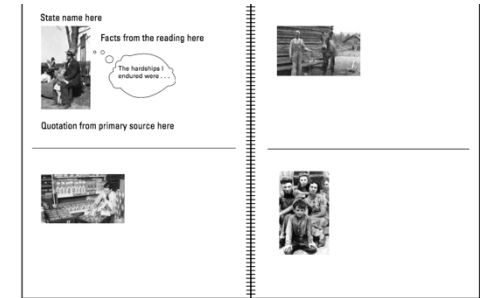
- In this activity, you will take a tour of the United States in the 1930s.
  - You will meet ordinary Americans who lived during the Great Depression by analyzing photographs and other primary sources.
  - You will take notes about your tour in scrapbooks, which you will use later to write letters to Eleanor Roosevelt describing your travels.
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# TOURING THE US

- Prepare a “scrapbook” for your tour of the country during the Great Depression:
- Visit the eight stations on the tour. Examine the photograph and the primary source at each station.

<p>State name here</p>  <p>Facts from the reading here</p> <p>The hardships I endured were . . .</p> <p>Quotation from primary source here</p> <hr/> 	 <hr/> 
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# TOURING THE U.S.



Include the following in your notes for each state:

- three or more important and interesting facts from the reading
- a title above the photograph that identifies the state you are visiting
- a thought bubble for the person in the photograph that describes the hardships he or she faced during the Depression
- a quotation from the primary source at the station that describes at least one way people endured the hardships of the Depression
- additional creative touches to make your scrapbook realistic, such as a sketch of an item you picked up during your visit to that state

# STATION E

- Listen to Woody Guthrie's song "Dust Bowl Refugee"

# DEBRIEFING ROADTRIP

- When asked, share your scrapbook pages with the class.
  - Government workers did answer many of the letters sent to the president and his wife.
  - The responses expressed sympathy for people's plight and often suggested places the letter writer might go for help.
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# DEBRIEFING ROADTRIP

- During your tour of the country, you learned about ordinary Americans who experienced the Great Depression. Like Lorena Hickok, you will now report your discoveries.
  - Use the information in your scrapbook to write a letter to Eleanor Roosevelt describing the hardships people endured during the Depression.
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# WRITING FIRST LADY ROOSEVELT

Your letter must have the following:

- An appropriate date, salutation, and closing.
- A brief introduction summarizing the states you visited and the types of people you met.
- A description of your visit to at least two states. For each state, include
  - —information on the hardships people faced during the Depression and the ways in which they endured those hardships.
  - —a quotation and one or more facts from the reading.
- At least four of these words: *betrayal, change, depressed, desperation, destitute, dreadful, encourage,*
- *honorable, hope, ideals, plague, pride, self-respect, shame, stress, suffer, worth.*
- A conclusion summarizing your thoughts about how ordinary Americans endured the hardships they faced during this time period.

- In groups of four:
    - Exchange and read letters with the other members of your group.
    - Select one letter from your group to read to the class.
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