

Unit 2: Corporate America and the Progressives

Summary:

Following the Civil War, the United States underwent the most profound change in its history. In a period of roughly 50 years it changed into a heavily industrialized, urban nation. This development saw the emergence of modern day corporations such as Nabisco, General Electric, and AT&T. These corporations saw the concentration of power and wealth into the hands of a very small portion of the population. In response to this concentration, groups throughout the country attempted to curtail the power of these corporations through various tactics. This unit will focus on these reformers, referred to as the Progressives. The historical thinking skill that we will focus on is *change and continuity*. We will look at this period of history and see the direction, pace, and type of changes that were occurring in the nation.

Essential Question:

1. How far and how fast was corporate America challenged in the late 19th/early 20th century?

Learning Goals:

1. Understand the pace and extent to which Corporate America grew and was challenged
2. Examine the responses to Corporate America by the Progressives
3. Use a metaphor to explore the historical thinking skill of *change and continuity*

Summative Assessment:

1. Road map of Progressivism
2. Reading quizzes

Files:

- Crash Course US History
 - #23 The Industrial Economy
 - #25 Growth, Cities, and Immigration
 - #27 The Progressive Era
- Digital History Textbook
 - Industrialization and the Working Class
 - The Rise of Big Business
 - The Political Crisis of the 1890s
 - The Progressive Era
- Various Primary & Secondary Sources