



8th Grade New York State Standard Based Inquiry: Is Greed Good

Source: http://www.c3teachers.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/NewYork_8_Gilded_Age.pdf

Standard: New York State Social Studies Framework Key Idea & Practices

- 8.2 *A Changing Society*: Industrialization and immigration contributed to the urbanization of America. Problems from these changes sparked the Progressive movement and increased calls for reform.

Key Skills

- Gathering, Using, and Interpreting Evidence
- Comparison and Contextualization

Staging Question: Discuss examples of everyday life when greed is good and times when greed is bad.

Supporting Question: What were some of the political, social, and economic conditions driving the industrial growth from 1870 to 1900 in the United States?

Formative Performance Task: List the political, social, and economic conditions that drove the industrial growth from 1870 to 1900 in the United States.

Featured Source: United States Patent and invention activity in the 19th century.

Standards Based CQ Implementation: A timeline of United States patents.

Staging the Compelling Question

The compelling question may be staged by having the students discuss examples from everyday life when greed is good and times when greed is bad. For example, people may have a greed for things that are good, such as knowledge. Greed can serve as a motivation to get things done and can encourage economic activity. Greed can be bad when it leads people to harm one another.

The Supporting Question

The supporting question -- “What were some of the political, social, and economic conditions driving industrial growth from 1870 to 1900 in the United States? -- helps students build a background understanding of what led to the Industrial Age at the turn of the 20th century. The formative performance task calls on students to list the political, social, and economic conditions that drove industrial growth. The featured resource for the standards based implementation depicts patent activity.

Featured Source

United State Patent and trademark Office, chart of patent and invention activity in the 19th century, *US Patent Activity Calendar Years 1790 to the Present*; chart of notable American inventions, 2015

Inventor	Invention	Year
James Watt	Steam engine	1769
Eli Whitney	Cotton gin	1793
Samuel Slater	Cotton spinning mill	1793
Robert Fulton	steamboat	1807
Samuel Morse	telegraph	1836
Charles Goodyear	Vulcanized rubber	1839
Elisha Otis	elevator	1861
Alfred Nobel	dynamite	1867
Christopher Sholes	Practical typewriter	1868
Alexander Graham bell	telephone	1876
Thomas Edison	Incandescent light bulb	1879
Nikola tesla	Induction motor	1879
Wright brother	airplane	1903
Henry Ford	Model T automobile	1908