

## Learning Objectives

*Students will:*

- 1) Understand the history of immigration to America.
- 2) Be able to name some of the countries from which people moved to America.
- 3) Know some of the reasons that people chose to move to America.
- 4) Know that life for most immigrants was challenging in their home country, only to be met with new challenges in America.
- 5) Understand the contribution of different ethnic groups.
- 6) Know the process of becoming a U.S. citizen

## Suggested Activities

- 1) **Immigration Research.** Have each student in your class choose a group of people from a specific country. Each student should research what life was like for their assigned group in their home country, the reasons these people chose to move to America, where in America they moved to, what their life was like once they moved to America, and the contributions this group has made to the American culture. Students should present their findings to the class.
- 2) **Family Tree.** Ask students to interview their parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and other relatives. Have them design a family tree showing where each of their relatives was born. Students may be surprised to find out that their recent ancestors were immigrants, or they may find out that their ancestors have lived in America a very long time. Encourage students to go as far back as they can in their family history to find out when their family came to America (If a student's family is relatively new to America, they can also trace the family history farther back and describe the place where their family originated).

## Ten Question Quiz

- 1) Immigrants from Europe started arriving in America in the 1600s \_\_\_T \_\_\_ F
- 2) All immigrants came to America by choice. \_\_\_T \_\_\_ F
- 3) In most immigrant families, children had to work to help support the family \_\_\_T \_\_\_ F
- 4) Many immigrants eventually moved from large cities to other places in the country \_\_\_T \_\_\_ F
- 5) Immigrants from China brought their customs of egg rolls and Chinese New Year to America. \_\_\_T \_\_\_ F
- 6) People have immigrated to America because:
  - (a) they were in search of land and gold
  - (b) they wished to escape war and search for freedom
  - (c) they came in search of a job or an education.
  - (d) all of the above
- 7) By 1920, what percentage of people living in the United States had been born in another country?
  - (a) 0% (b) 25% (c) 50% (d) 100%
- 8) Many immigrants settled in neighborhoods with people from their ethnic group. Why?
  - (a) they spoke the same language
  - (b) they shared the same traditions
  - (c) they were afraid of the other immigrants
  - (d) both a and b
- 9) To become a citizen you must
  - (a) live in the U.S. for five years
  - (b) take a test (c) both a and b
  - (d) none of the above
- 10) People are still immigrating to the U.S. – since 1965 \_\_\_\_\_ people have moved here from other countries.
  - (a) 400,000 (b) 1 million
  - (c) 5 million (d) over 17 million

Answers: 1T, 2F, 3T, 4T, 5T, 6D, 7B, 8D, 9C, 10B

## Vocabulary

**Ancestor** – Your family before you – your mother and father, grandparents, and great parents

**Barrio** – a neighborhood of Spanish speaking people

**Citizen** – somebody who has a right to live in this country because they are born here or have legally been told they can live here

**Culture** – includes a person's language, art, games, music, clothing, food, and religion

**Ethnic group** – a group of people from the same country, people of the same race, or people with a common way of life

**Gold Rush** – the discovery of gold in 1849, which led to immigration by many people from Southeast Asia.

**Immigrant** – a person that moves from one country to another

**Immigrate** – to move – usually from one country to another

**Immigration station** – the checkpoint for all immigrants entering America.

**Naturalization** – the process by which an immigrant becomes a U.S. citizen

**Slave** – a person sold like property to another person

**Steerage** – The part of a ship below the deck, near the rudder and the steering gear

**Tenements** – poorly built, crowded apartments

