

The Industrial Revolution

Fun Projects for U.S. History

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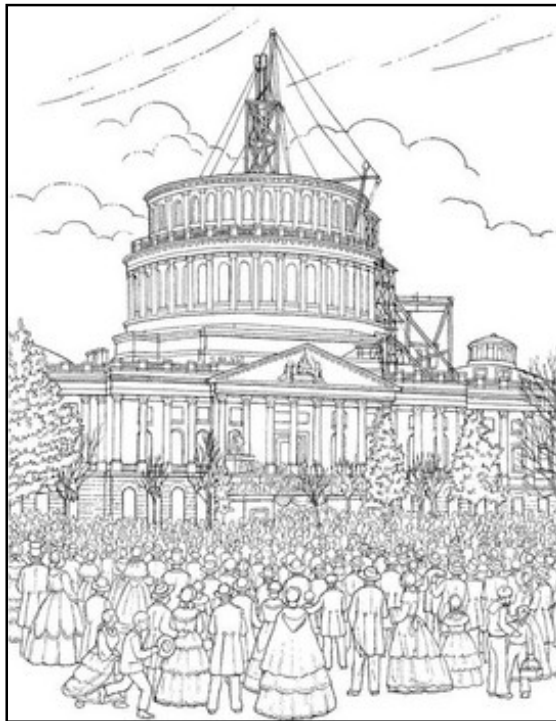
The Industrial Revolution

Welcome to an extensive collection of hands-on activities focusing on the people, places, and events of the Industrial Revolution. Included is a CD-ROM featuring full-color presentations of each activity.

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

TABLE OF CONTENTS

General Overview	1
Steamer Trunk and Passage Documents	2–11
Fantastic Flying Machine	12–21
Zoetrope	22–30
Factory Relief	31–37
3D Altered-Art Immigrant Display	38–45
Pincushion	46–52
Penny Rug	53–56
“Nodding Donkey” and Oil Deposit Cutaway	57–64
Battery Model and Fact Book	65–72
Extension Activities for Graphics	73–76



THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

GENERAL OVERVIEW

This collection of enrichment activities was designed to complement existing curricula and expand one's understanding of what it was like to live during the past. Studies have confirmed that using one's hands helps students retain information. If you are looking for creative and simple—yet stimulating and exciting—projects to spark learning, take the next step toward a highly engaging encounter.

Regardless of a student's age, learning by doing will help maintain their interest, improve retention of information, and foster a desire to learn now and in the future.

As an educator with 18-plus years of teaching and product development experience, it is my personal goal to encourage young people to be creative. Each of the activities included in this collection is based on actual artifacts and is representative of the era. A conscious effort was made to develop projects constructed from readily available materials that result in a stunning end product.

It is my heartfelt desire that both teacher and student will find the activities in this book a wonderful journey of creativity.

Jean Henrich

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION



Steamer Trunk and Passage Documents



THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

Make a Steamer Trunk and Passage Documents

Steamer trunks were a type of luggage used for carrying a large number of personal items on long trips. They were made from a variety of hard wood (including cedar and oak) and were often covered with leather made from the hides of cows, horses, or deer. Decorative details such as nails, tacks, and ornate locks added to their appeal. Trunks were used not only by immigrants, but by traveling salesmen, circus performers, and regular travelers.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Plaid FolkArt® acrylic paints (black, gold metallic, antique white, and burnt umber)
- Paintbrush
- Paper towels
- 4" x 6" wooden or papier-mache "trunk" (we found ours at a local craft store)
- Wallpaper (ask your local home building store for discontinued wallpaper books)
- Scissors
- Brown kraft paper or paper bags
- Decoupage medium
- **X-Acto® knife (ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED)**
- **Hot glue gun and glue (ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED)**
- **Candle (ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED)**
- **Brown spray paint (ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED)**
- **Mini-iron (optional—ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED)**
- Beeswax
- Shoe polish (black or brown)
- Tacky glue
- 4" x 6" index cards
- Scrap paper, crayons, etc. (for collage)
- Instant coffee or tea leaves
- Water
- Cooking oil



THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

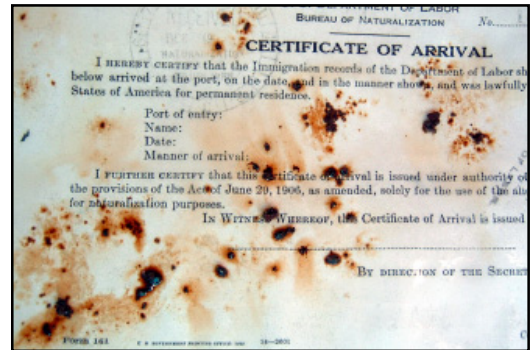
1. ANTIQUE AND FILL OUT THE DOCUMENTS

There are a couple of different and effective techniques to antique stationery, envelopes, and documents. You can use one or more of the following ideas to antique the documents on pages 9–11:

- Dampen the documents with water and sprinkle instant coffee over the surface.



- Place the documents into a container filled with water and sprinkled with tea leaves. Let the paper remain in the water until it achieves an aged appearance.



- Tear the edges and rub them with some burnt-umber and yellow-ochre paint.

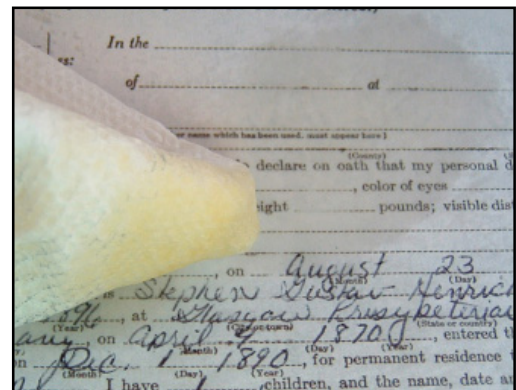


- **WITH ADULT SUPERVISION,** carefully burn portions of the paper. Do not overdo this step.



- Rub the surface of the documents with a paper towel coated with cooking oil.

HELPFUL HINT: Use this technique only after you have applied the other techniques (including adding graphics) since the oil might cause the ink to smear.



THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

2. LINE THE TRUNK

- Line the interior of the trunk with marbled or vintage-looking wallpaper. Use tacky glue to hold it in place.



3. MAKE AND APPLY THE FAUX LEATHER

HELPFUL HINT:

This step can be messy. Wear plastic gloves and an apron to protect your clothes.

- Tear up some pieces of brown paper bag or kraft paper. Dampen the paper with water and crumple it.



THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION



3. MAKE AND APPLY THE FAUX LEATHER (continued)

- With a paintbrush, apply alternating layers of decoupage medium and brown paper to the outside of the trunk.

- Continue layering the crumpled paper on all sides of the trunk. You want the paper to be highly textured to simulate real leather. Let dry before proceeding to the next steps.

