

Educator Instructions

Refuge or Refusal: Turning Points in U.S. Immigration History



Exhibit Overview

1. Ten panels
2. Organized chronologically
3. Identifies five turning points by date and legislation passed

Learning Objectives

1. Students/participants will consider five turning points in U.S. immigration history.
2. Students/participants will consider impact of federal legislation on the immigration experience.

Materials Needed:

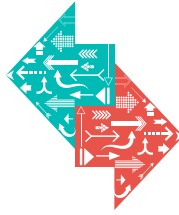
1. Ten-panel exhibit
2. Activity sheet
3. Clipboard or notebook as a writing surface
4. Pen or pencil
5. 11" x 17" Immigration and World History Timeline (optional)

Activity Instructions:

- Arrange for the ten-panel exhibit to be set up in a space where students/participants have room to move around and read each panel.
- Provide an overview of the exhibit, including the topics it covers and organization by chronology.
- Distribute a copy of the activity sheet to each student/participant; explain that the sheet is divided into five sections based on the five turning points identified in the exhibit.
- Instruct the students/participants to respond to the questions in each section of the worksheet using the ten-panel exhibit.
- After the students/participants complete the worksheet, organize the group into five teams and assign one of the five turning points to each team. Instruct teams to present their legislation to the group, noting the impact of their particular legislation.
- After the presentations, lead the whole group in a discussion of immigration history since 1965.
- Conduct a group discussion using the following questions:
 1. What global events do you think have influenced attitudes toward immigration since 1965?
 2. What current factors do you think are influencing discussions of potential changes to immigration legislation?

Activity Sheet

Refuge or Refusal: Turning Points in U.S. Immigration History



1790

What is the name of the legislation passed by Congress in this year?

What new rules did this legislation put into place?

What issues do you think Congress was seeking to address with the passage of this legislation?

What global events do you think influenced attitudes toward immigration during the time period when this legislation was passed?

1882

What is the name of the legislation passed by Congress in this year?

What new rules did this legislation put into place?

What issues do you think Congress was seeking to address with the passage of this legislation?

What global events do you think influenced attitudes toward immigration during the time period when this legislation was passed?

1924

What is the name of the legislation passed by Congress in this year?

What new rules did this legislation put into place?

What issues do you think Congress was seeking to address with the passage of this legislation?

What global events do you think influenced attitudes toward immigration during the time period when this legislation was passed?

1948

What is the name of the legislation passed by Congress in this year?

What new rules did this legislation put into place?

What issues do you think Congress was seeking to address with the passage of this legislation?

What global events do you think influenced attitudes toward immigration during the time period when this legislation was passed?

1965

What is the name of the legislation passed by Congress in this year?

What new rules did this legislation put into place?

What issues do you think Congress was seeking to address with the passage of this legislation?

What global events do you think influenced attitudes toward immigration during the time period when this legislation was passed?