

Readiness Knowledge and Skills Social Studies 8— STAAR Review

Major Era 1

Exploration and Colonization

Exploration

Reasons for exploration:

- Religion (God)
- Wealth (Gold)
- Fame and International recognition (Glory)

Leads to discovery of North America and eventually colonization

Important Dates

1607 — Jamestown is founded: 1st Permanent English Settlement

1620 — Plymouth was founded: Pilgrims travelled to Plymouth and signed the Mayflower Compact to establish self-government

Early Representative Government

Mayflower Compact — Signed by many pilgrims, helped establish the idea of self government.

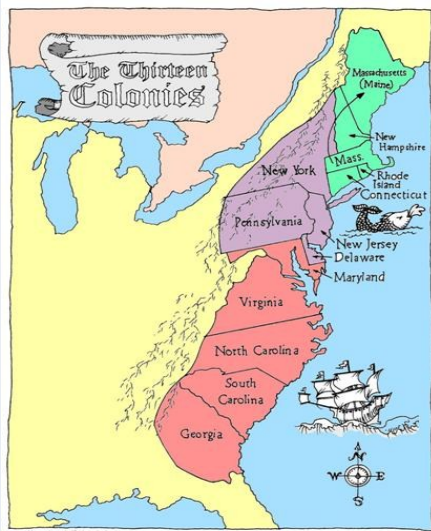
Virginia House of Burgesses — 1st representative assembly in North America

Establishing Colonies

- Religious and Political Freedom
- Economic Opportunity (mercantilism and opportunity to own land)

Settlement of the American Colonies

- **New England** (CT, NH, MA, RI): settled by Pilgrims in 1620 and Puritans in the 1630s to escape religious persecution in England
- **Middle Colonies** (NY, NJ, PA, DE): NY was important trading area, William Penn founded PA for religious freedom
- **Southern Colonies** (VA, MD, NC, SC, GA): Maryland founded by Catholics feeling religious persecution, GA was created for debtors



Conflict with Native Americans

- Early settlers
- French and Indian War

Slavery Established

The need for cheap laborers to grow cash crops encouraged white settlers to use African slaves.

- Farmers grew crops on **plantations in the south**. Farmers used **slaves** to do the work so they could produce the cash crops cheaply.
- **Invention of cotton gin** in 1793 made it even easier and cheaper to grow cotton. **This required more slaves to help the farmers grow it.**
- As America acquired new territories, slavery became a controversial issue.

People of the Colonies

Thomas Hooker — Founder of the state of Connecticut, "Father of American Democracy." Connecticut adopted the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut sometimes called the "First written Constitution."

William Penn — Established Pennsylvania as a refuge for Quakers. He supported freedom of worship, welcomed immigrants, and did not require residents to serve in a militia.

Anne Hutchinson — Banished from Massachusetts colony; one of the founders of Rhode Island



French and Indian War

- British colonists wanted to take over French land in North America.
- British soldiers fought against French soldiers and Native Americans.
- Native Americans joined against the British b/c they were afraid the British would take over their land.

Treaty of Paris (1763) - Ended the French and Indian War

- Also as a result of the war, **the British began taxing the colonists to pay for the war** and the **proclamation line of 1763** was established to **keep colonists from settling west of the Appalachian mountains.**

Readiness Knowledge and Skills Social Studies 8— STAAR Review

Major Era 2

Creating a New Nation

Increasing Tension with Britain

British Policy	Definition	American Reaction
Sugar Act	Tax on Sugar	Taxation without representation
Stamp Act	Tax on documents	Protests; Sons of Liberty form
Townshend Acts	Tax on imported goods	Boycott British
Tea Act	Taxed Tea	Boston tea Party
Intolerable Acts	Closed Boston	Formed First Continental Congress

Revolutionary War

Declaration of Independence 1776 — Document written by Thomas Jefferson, claiming independence from Great Britain based on the philosophies of Locke, Montesquieu, and Blackstone

Lexington and Concord — First battles of the Revolution

- British planned to arrest American leaders
- Paul Revere made famous ride to warn about the British attack

Saratoga — turning point of the war

- Important victory because it influenced foreign nations to support America in its war against England
- France used its Navy in the Americans effort for victory

Yorktown — last major battle of the war

- French ships prevented British supplies to reach Yorktown
- British surrender because of lack of supplies
- British lost hope of winning war and began negotiating the Treaty of Paris 1783

Treaty of Paris 1783 — ended the American revolution

- The 13 colonies became independent from England
- The boundaries of the new nation were the Mississippi river to the west, Canada to the North, and Spanish Florida to the south.

People and Documents that Influenced American Government

John Locke — Writings on the nature of government influenced the founding fathers. Government is developed by the consent of the people and Inalienable rights: Life, Liberty and Property

Charles de Montesquieu — French political philosopher who defined the principle of separation of powers and checks and balances in government.

William Blackstone — gave the 1st University lectures on English Common Law.

George Mason — Writings influenced new government. He believed in the need to restrict government power and refused to ratify the constitution till the Bill of Rights was added.

Magna Carta — Limited the power of the King; guaranteed the right of trial by jury.

English Bill of Rights — called for frequent elections; guaranteed right to bear arms, forbade cruel and unusual punishment; restated trial by jury.

Leaders of the American Revolution

George Washington — Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, President of the Constitutional Convention, and First US President, Helped create a strong central government.

Samuel Adams — Boston Patriot who opposed British taxation. He established the committee of correspondence. Leader of the Sons of Liberty and insisted a Bill of Rights be added to the Constitution before ratification.

Benjamin Franklin — Author, publisher, inventor and diplomat

Alexander Hamilton — Author of many of the Federalist Papers; First secretary of treasury, Leader of Federalist Party,

Patrick Henry — Patriot from Virginia, opposed ratification of Constitution because of potential limitations on state's rights. "Give me Liberty. Or give me death!"

James Madison — "Father of the Constitution" one of Three authors of the "Federalist Papers", author of the "Bill of Rights"

Thomas Paine — Wrote *Common Sense* and *American Crisis*, He urged Americans to support the Patriot cause during the American Revolution.

Abigail Adams — Wife of John Adams, known for her stance on women's rights in letters to her husband.

Wentworth Cheswell — Educated African-American Patriot, made the same midnight ride as Paul Revere warning that the British were coming.

Mercy Otis Warren — Patriot writer that supported independence and convinced others to join the cause. First woman historian of the American Revolution, published plays, books and poetry.

James Armistead — African-American spy during the American Revolution. Spied on Lord Cornwallis' camp.

Bernardo de Galvez — Spaniard who held off British in New Orleans, but allowed Americans use of the port.

Crispus Attucks — American Hero and Martyr of the Boston Massacre

Haym Salomon — Polish Jew who spied for Americans and was held as a translator for the Germans by the British.

Marquis de Lafayette — French Noble who helped Americans during the Revolutionary War

John Paul Jones — Founder of the U.S. Navy. Led raids on British ships and famous for yelling "I have not yet begun to fight"

King George III — King of England during the American Revolution

Colonies government during the Revolution

Articles of Confederation — Created just before the Battle of Yorktown, this was the first attempt at a national government by the American Colonies; its weaknesses was the lack of a strong central government.

Philadelphia Convention (1787)

Also called the Constitutional Convention — Delegates met in Philadelphia Pennsylvania to revise the Articles of Confederation; instead they wrote an entirely new constitution and formed a new government.

Readiness Knowledge and Skills Social Studies 8— STAAR Review

Major Era 3

The Early Republic

Federalism and Anti-Federalism

Anti-Federalist oppose ratification of the Constitution

Federalist support the ratification of the Constitution

Arguments **against** and **for** ratification

Anti-Federalist	Federalist
Too much government power	Creates Checks and balances to prevent Tyranny
Took too much power from states	Tyranny of Majority not possible because of U.S. diversity
Tyranny of the Majority	Supported Bill of Rights to be added after ratification
Legislative should be more powerful than Executive	Federalist Papers were written to support a new Constitution
Needed a Bill of rights to protect individuals	

Constitution Ratified (1787) — Becomes blueprint for American Government

War of 1812

Causes

- England prevented trade with other countries
- England Impressed (kidnapped) sailors and forced them into the British Navy
- England encouraged Native Americans to attack settlers

Effects

- Foreign Affairs — America proved it could protect itself.
- Economy — America became more independent of foreign trade; created their own goods, sparked the Industrial Revolution
- Nationalism — helped Americans feel more Patriotic about their country.

Creating a New Government — Constitution

7 Principles of the Constitution

Popular Sovereignty — Means the government was created by the people in order to govern themselves.

Republicanism — Government in which the desires of people are represented in government by elected representatives.

Federalism — power of the government is shared between the states and national government.

Separation of Powers — Split the powers of government into three branches; Executive, Legislative and Judicial branches.

Checks and Balances — Each branch makes sure the others are working the way they are supposed to.

Limited Government — placed strict limits on government to protect the people.

Individual Rights — the first 10 amendments of the Constitution protect individuals rights against the power of the government.

Development of Political Parties

	Federalists	Anti-Federalists
Important Leaders	John Adams Alexander Hamilton	Thomas Jefferson James Madison
Issues		
Government	Strong National Government	Weak National and strong state governments
Constitution	Loose interpretation	Strict interpretation
Economy	Based on industry	Based on agriculture
Democracy	Fear of mob rule	Fear of rule by one or a few
Foreign Affairs	Closer ties with England	Closer ties with France

Bill of Rights

1st Amendment — Freedom of Speech, Press, Religion, Petition, and Assembly

2nd Amendment — Right to bear Arms

3rd Amendment — protection from quartering troops

4th Amendment — protection from unreasonable search and seizure

5th Amendment — grand jury, protection from self incrimination

6th Amendment — Right jury for criminal trial, speedy trial

7th Amendment — Right to jury in civil

8th Amendment — No cruel and unusual punishment, excessive bail

9th Amendment — Protection of rights not stated in the Constitution

10th Amendment — Powers not listed go to the states and people

First 4 Presidents

George Washington

- 1st President encouraged no political parties and isolationism
- Farewell address encouraged isolationism and no forming of political parties

John Adams

- XYZ Affair
- Alien and Sedition Acts

Thomas Jefferson

- Marbury v. Madison (Judicial Review)
- Louisiana Purchase (1803) — purchased from France for \$15 million, doubled the size of the U.S.
- Embargo Act of 1807 — restricted trade with any country

James Madison

- War of 1812 — United States earned worldwide respect and helped spark the Industrial Revolution
- Henry Clay's American System

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Social Studies 8— STAAR Review

A Changing Nation

Monroe doctrine

issued by President **James Monroe (5th President)** 1823

- The doctrine stated that the U.S. would not allow any European country to create new colonies anywhere in North or South America
- The doctrine that the U.S. would stay out of European affairs and Europe should stay out of U.S. affairs
- America now saw itself as a world power

Mexican War (James K. Polk –President)

- America and Mexico argued over the border between the Texas and Mexico.
- America invaded Mexico and Mexico surrendered (“Stonewall” Jackson recognized as a hero of the war)
- Mexico recognizes Texas as a part of the U.S. and settles border dispute— Rio Grande the border
- Mexico gave up the **Mexican Cession** which helped complete Manifest Destiny.

Jacksonian Democracy

The idea that as many people as possible should be allowed to vote

Industrialization

an economy that begins to be based on factories rather than farming.

Factors that led to industrialization:

- War of 1812— America could not buy goods from England and was forced to make their own goods
- Inventions changed the way goods were produced
- Improvements in transportation— made it easier, faster and cheaper to send goods to buyers

Main features of Industrialization:

1. Occurred in the North
2. machines began to do the work that people did
3. unskilled workers replaced skilled workers
4. more people worked, including women and children

Mercantilism v. Free Enterprise

Mercantilism	Free Enterprise
British government imposes strict control of colonial economy	Government does not control but regulates to make it fair
America discouraged from producing manufactured goods	Free to produce whatever goods wanted
America encouraged to buy British goods	Free to buy goods from any country
America’s trade with other countries is restricted	Free Trade: The U.S. can trade with any country it wants to

Manifest Destiny

the idea that **America** is **destined** to go from “Sea to shining Sea” or the **Atlantic to the Pacific**.

Reasons for expansion:

- We didn’t want anyone to get there first and try to colonize (Spanish or French)
- Wealth— rich farm lands, timber, minerals and gold
- Many Americans believed it was important for all Americans to have their own plot of land

Issue: led to conflict with other peoples and nations

Transportation

Colonial Era

- trade and travel occurred along rivers
- Roads improved during this time but still rough

Early Republic

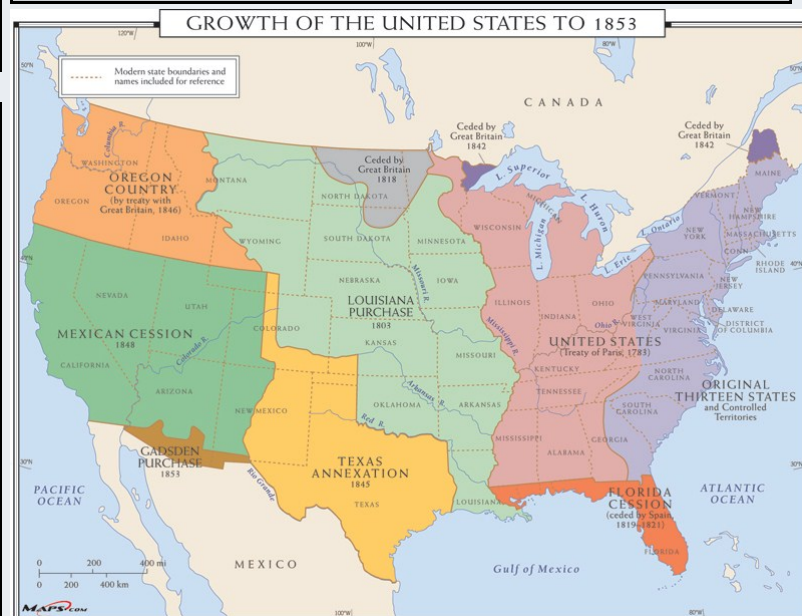
- A. Hamilton increased taxes in order to improve the national transportation system
- **Steamboat** invented by **Robert Fulton** allowed for goods to travel faster

Era of Westward Expansion

- Canals helped link farms and cities and made it easier to transport people and goods-
- The ability to transport people and goods allowed cities to grow and expand
- The growth of cities, trade and the migration of people all increased with the development of the railroad

Gadsden Purchase (1853)— Land purchased from Mexico in used to complete the transcontinental railroad.

Florida Cession(1819) — given to the U.S. by Spain



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Major Era 5

A Nation Divided

Reform in America

Abolition Movement — The social movement to end slavery. (Leaders: Fredrick Douglas, Sojourner Truth, William L. Garrison)

Public Education — Between 1830-1850, many northern states opened free public schools. (Leaders: Horace Mann)

Labor Reform Movement — Social movement where workers began protesting and strikes to get better wages and working hours.

Women's Rights — This movement sought the equal treatment of women, including the right to vote. (Leaders: Stanton, Anthony)

Temperance Movement — Social movement to stop drinking alcohol.

Abolitionism in the North

Abolitionism— the movement to end slavery

- Northern States had outlawed slavery and they wanted the Southern States to do the same
- **The Liberator**— an abolitionist newspaper— **William Lloyd Garrison**
- **Frederick Douglass** and **Sojourner Truth**— both born slaves but had escaped slavery and **became leading abolitionist**
- **Harriett Beecher Stowe**— wrote "**Uncle Tom's Cabin**" which portrayed slavery in the South.
- **Harriet Tubman** — Former slave and conductor of the Underground Railroad

Sectionalism

Tension between the North and the South as each "section" of the country places its own interests above the country as a whole

- The North relied on factories and manufacturing
- the South relied on plantations (slavery). and farms
- They had different economic interest
- wanted the National Government to side with them on issues.

The tariff of Abominations and the Nullification Crisis increased sectionalism in the country

Bleeding Kansas

Conflict between pro-slavery and anti-slavery people in Kansas from 1854-1859

Kansas-Nebraska Act

- Nebraska Territory was divide into two territories.
- Slavery in each territory was to be decided by popular sovereignty (vote by the people).
- Anti-slavery and Pro-slavery forces rushed into the territories in order to vote.
- A key figure was John Brown who was an extreme abolitionist that murdered slavery supporters.

Reformers

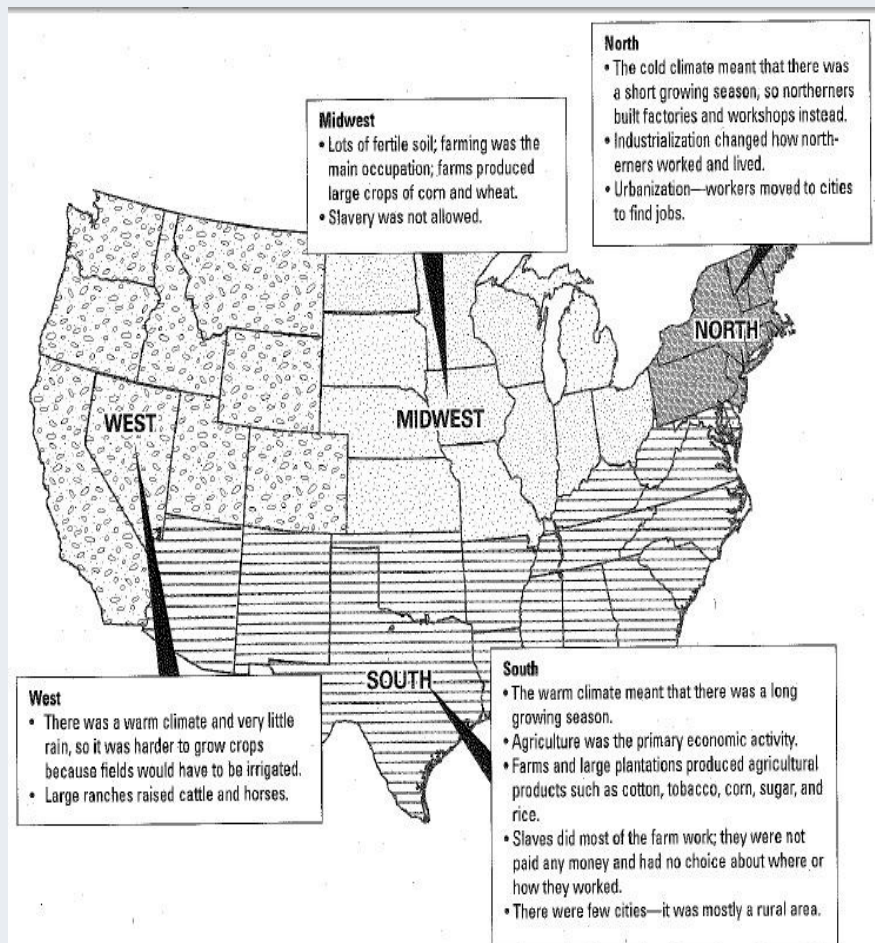
Susan B. Anthony — Leader in women's suffrage (right to vote) movement for 50 years to the effort to attain equal rights for women.

Henry David Thoreau — American essayist, poet, practical philosopher, and transcendentalist. Wrote "Civil Disobedience" (passive resistance) and supported abolitionism.

Sojourner Truth — Former slave who fought for women's rights and abolition of slavery

Elizabeth Cady Stanton — Author of declaration of the rights of women, seeking equal rights for women. Her and Lucretia Mott held the first women's rights convention in Seneca Falls, NY.

Horace Mann — Father of Public Education; believed all children had the right to free education.



Readiness Knowledge and Skills Social Studies 8— STAAR Review

Major Era 6

Civil War and Reconstruction

Civil War (1861-1865) — Fighting between the North and South over the issue of slavery. North wins and slaves are granted Freedom, Citizenship, and the right to vote.

People of the Civil War

- **Abraham Lincoln**— President of The United States during the Civil War. (Emancipation Proclamation, Gettysburg Address)
- **Jefferson Davis**— President of the Confederate States of America. Inaugural address proclaimed States' Rights.
- **Ulysses S. Grant**— Commanding Union General— won major victories for the Union (Shiloh and Vicksburg)- defeated Lee's troops in Virginia and accepted Lee's surrender at the Appomattox court house in 1865
- **Robert E. Lee**—Confederate General— commanded the Northern Army of Virginia-respected by Northerners and loved by white southerners— won early victories and invaded the north twice and lost both times (at Antietam and Gettysburg)- surrendered at Appomattox

Secession

- withdrawal of Southern States from the Union
- Southerners did not trust Lincoln and had threatened to secede even before Lincoln won the Election of 1860
- They based their arguments on the ideas of State's Rights
- They argued that they had voluntarily joined the union and therefore had the right to leave
- December 20, 1860— South Carolina becomes the first state to secede
- other southern states soon followed and formed the Confederate States of America with Jefferson Davis as their President

Battles of the Civil War

Fort Sumter

- first shots of the Civil war
- before supplies could arrive Confederate troops attack the fort and the Civil war begins

Battle of Antietam

- single bloodiest battle of the Civil War

Siege of Vicksburg

- Important Union victory
- Confederates lost control of the Mississippi River
- Vicksburg, Mississippi was the last Confederate stronghold along the Mississippi River

Battle of Gettysburg

- Important Union victory
- the only time the Confederate Army tried to win a battle in Northern Territory
- Pickett's Charge was the turning point in the battle
- Pickett led Confederate soldiers into the middle of Union forces and it was disastrous
- Lincoln gave the Gettysburg Address here in honor of the dead Union soldiers stating the Union was worth fighting for, included ideas about liberty and equality.

Appomattox Courthouse

- Lee Surrenders; War is over
- Last battle of the Civil War
- Lincoln Assassinated

Reconstruction

The process of re-admitting Southern States into the Union

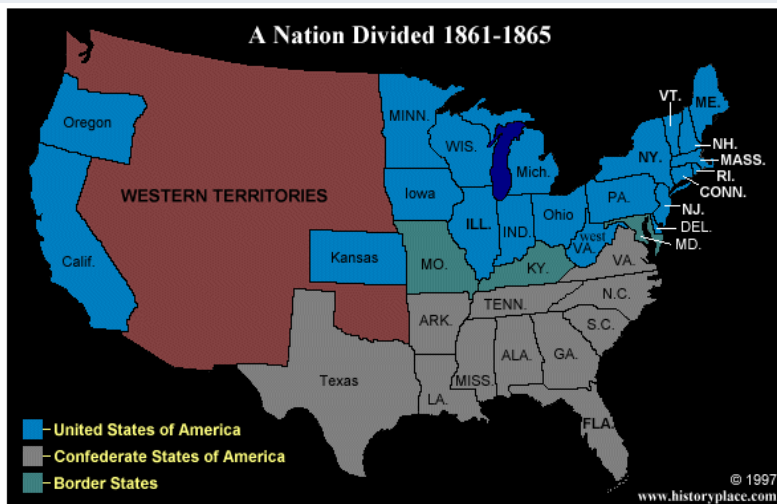
- Lasted from 1865-1867
- Andrew Johnson was the President during Reconstruction after Lincoln's death.
- Followed Lincoln's goals for reconstruction and pushed for the ratification of the thirteenth amendment, which prohibited slavery.
- Radical republicans wanted to use the Federal government to impose a new order on the South and grant citizenship rights to former slaves.

Reconstruction Amendments to the Constitution

- 13th Amendment—Freed Slaves in all states
- 14th Amendment — Made all former slaves American Citizens
- 15th Amendment — Allowed all former slaves the right to vote

People of Reconstruction

Hiram Rhodes Revels — American clergyman and educator who became the first black citizen to be elected to the U.S. Senate(1870-1871) during Reconstruction. He performed competently in office, advocating desegregation in the schools and on the railroads.



Emancipation

Emancipation Proclamation freed all of the slaves in the Southern States

Issued by President Lincoln on January 1, 1863— Lincoln did not, however, have the power to free the slaves in the Southern States so in reality **it freed very few slaves**

More People of the Civil War...

William Carney — 1st African-American awarded the Medal of Honor while serving with the 54th Massachusetts Regiment during the Civil War. Held the flag at Fort. Wagner.

Philip Bazaar — Navy Seaman who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his valor in the Battle for Fort Fisher of the American Civil War.

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Social Studies 8— STAAR Review

Key People, Supreme Court Cases,
Political Parties, Compromise

Additional Key People

John Brown — Militant Abolitionist who led raid at Harper's Ferry

John C. Calhoun — Vice President of U.S.; created a doctrine of nullification which said that a state could decide if a law was constitutional.

Henry Clay — Politician known as "The Great Compromiser" Created the Missouri Compromise, Compromise of 1850 and the compromise that ended the nullification crisis.

Dorothea Dix — Reformer who fought to improve the care of the mentally ill

Ralph Waldo Emerson — Writer and poet; popularized the idea of transcendentalism

Eli Whitney — Invented the cotton gin and interchangeable parts

John Peter Zenger — Journalist; his trial helped establish idea of freedom of the press

John Quincy Adams — 6th President, Member of Congress & favored strong nationalism against states' rights and opposed the pro-slavery messages of John C. Calhoun.

Daniel Webster — Representative and senator in the Congress. Known for his debates against Haynes and Calhoun on the topics of states' rights and nullification.

Andrew Jackson — 7th President; hero of the Battle of New Orleans (war of 1812); began a new style of American politics, "Jacksonian Democracy;" ordered the "trail of tears" and supported the power of the national government

John James Audubon — Painter of birds and other wildlife. Authored Birds of America which remains the most comprehensive presentation of American birds today.

Samuel Morse — Inventor of the telegraph

John Deere — Inventor of the Steel Plow

Political Parties

Political parties began over a disagreement about the power of the federal government and foreign policy.

Federalist Party — Believe in strong national government; higher tariffs; government support of industry. (Alexander Hamilton, John Adams)

Democratic Republicans — Strong state governments; lower taxes; support of agriculture and craftsmen. (Thomas Jefferson, James Madison)

Democratic Party — Modern Democratic Party began with the election of 1828 Andrew Jackson became the first Democrat when the Democratic-Republicans split.

Whig Party — Group opposed to Jackson's policies. Supported States rights, and Henry Clay's American System. Leaders were Daniel Webster and Henry Clay.

Republican Party — Modern republican Party formed before the Civil War as an Anti-slavery party. Abraham Lincoln was the first Republican President; Republicans temporarily dominated US politics after the Civil War.

Supreme Court Cases

John Marshall — One of the most influential Supreme Court Justices; he helped establish the idea of **Judicial Review** which made the Supreme Court the powerful institution it is today.

Marbury v. Madison (1803) — said that the Supreme Court had right to review all laws made by Congress; established the idea of Judicial Review.

Worcester v. Georgia — Cherokee Nation sued Georgia to keep their lands and won, but were removed by Jackson anyway

McCulloch v. Maryland (1819) — said that a state could not tax a national bank; increased the power of the national government.

Gibbons v. Ogden (1824) — said that federal government had the power to regulate trade between states.

Dred Scott v. Sanford (1857) — said that African-Americans were not citizens of the U.S. and said that Missouri compromise was unconstitutional; increased sectionalism.

Compromises on Slavery

Northwest Ordinance — established government for the Northwest Territory and described how a territory becomes a state.

Missouri Compromise (1820) — Admitted Missouri as a slave state and Maine as a free state, and prohibited slavery north of Missouri maintaining balance between free and slave states in Congress.

Compromise of 1850 — preserved balance of free and slave states and said that congress would not regulate slavery in territories. California becomes a free state, no slave trade in D.C., Popular Sovereignty in Mexican Session.

Morrill Act — land grant that established agricultural-universities. (Texas A&M)

Dawes Act — Indian policy that broke up reservations into individual land plots.

Homestead Act — law that a person could claim 160 acres of land in the western territories. (Sooners)

Fugitive Slave Act — act that helped slave owners recover their runaway slaves from the North. (Part of Compromise of 1850)

Nullification Compromise — Henry Clay's compromise to end the nullification crisis when the tariff would be lowered over a 10-year period

Kansas Nebraska Act — All were examples of the government compromises that actually spread slavery further in the country



Readiness Knowledge and Skills Social Studies 8— STAAR Review

Vocabulary

History Vocab

Abolitionism -- Movement to end slavery

Blockade—When goods are prevented from going into or out of an area

Boycott—A refusal to buy certain goods

Mercantilism—Economic system in which England controlled trade of the colonies

Suffrage—the right to vote

Free enterprise System — individual people and not the government control the economy; people decide what to make, sell and buy. (Alexander Hamilton)

American System — Henry Clay’s plan for economic growth; protective tariffs, transportation, roads and canals, 2nd national bank.

Louisiana Purchase — land bought by US in 1803; from Rocky Mts. To Mississippi River.

Manifest Destiny- — this was the name given to the idea that the United States was destined to expand from the Atlantic to Pacific Ocean.

Northwest Ordinance — set up a method by which the United States territory could grow and expand in an orderly manner; specifically it was passed for the Northwest Territory.

Nullification — idea that a state government could nullify or ignore a federal law that they feel unfairly hurts their state(or unconstitutional); S. Carolina, led by John C. Calhoun nearly attempted to secede from US after nullifying protective tariffs.

Protective Tariffs — taxes on imported goods that are designed to help United States companies compete in the sale of goods.

Trail of Tears — forced on this trail after Andrew Jackson signed the Indian Removal Act of 1830 into law; many Native Americans (Cherokee) died along the trail.

Unalienable Rights — rights that cannot or should not be taken away by a government because they are given by God; examples: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

Transcendentalism — a philosophy emphasizing the spiritual importance in life over the material importance.

Minimum Government Intrusion (Laissez Faire) — idea that citizens have the right to privacy and independence from government control.

Property Rights — the right to own property.

Communication Systems — process of keeping the colonies connected to know what was going on in the others.

Transcontinental Railroad — Railroad line that linked the well-developed railway network of the East Coast with rapidly growing California.

Virtue — the quality of doing what is right and avoiding what is wrong

Urbanization — social process where cities grow and societies become more urban

Radical Reconstruction — plan made by “radical” republicans in Congress to reconstruct the south after the Civil War

Confederation — united in a league, alliance, or conspiracy.

Civil Disobedience — the refusal to obey certain laws or governmental demands for the purpose of influencing legislation or government policy, characterized by the employment of such nonviolent techniques as boycotting, picketing, and nonpayment of taxes.

Secession — to withdraw formally from an alliance, federation, or association, as from a political union, a religious organization, etc.

Industrialism — the large-scale introduction of manufacturing, advanced technical enterprises, and other productive economic activity into an area, society, country, etc.

1st Great Awakening — The 1st Great Awakening was a period of great revivalism that spread throughout the colonies in the 1730s and 1740s. It deemphasized the importance of church doctrine and instead put a greater importance on the individual and their spiritual experience.

2nd Great Awakening — A period of religious revivalism in the 1800’s that focused on reform and repairing moral injustices.

Virginia Plan — the Virginia Plan, each state would have a different number of representatives based on the state’s population

New Jersey Plan — the New Jersey Plan, the number of representatives would be the same for each state.

Great Compromise — it called for a Bi-cameral Congress with population based representation in the House, and two representatives per state in the Senate.

Criteria to become a citizen —

- are at least 18 years old
- lived as a legal immigrant in the U.S. for a specific period of time,
- lived for a specific period of time in the state or U.S. territory from where you are applying,
- have “good moral character” and have not been convicted of certain crimes,
- can speak, read and write in English,
- know the basics of U.S. history, government and civics,
- understand and have an attachment to the U.S. Constitution.

Scalawags — a native white Southerner who collaborated with the occupying forces during Reconstruction, often for personal gain.

Carpetbaggers — a Northerner who went to the South after the Civil War and became active in Republican politics, especially so as to profiteer from the unsettled social and political conditions of the area during Reconstruction.