

**Unit Name: 4a - The Progressive Movement**  
**Author: Fred Wilson**

**UNIT**

Subject: **Social Studies**  
Course/Grade: **US History I**  
School: **EHTHS**

Country:  
State/Group: **NJ**

**UNIT SUMMARY**

Investigate the problems in America and discover how social leaders proposed to deal with them.

By the early 1900s, many Americans had left rural areas and moved to cities to take jobs in factories and offices. Although workers often lived in miserable conditions, city life attracted many newcomers because of an alluring consumer culture and new freedoms for young adults. Activist citizens started reform movements that worked for public education, labor rights, women's rights, the safety of the nation's food supply, and the conservation of natural resources—even though some of these movements often conflicted each other. Understand that while the Progressives fought for many different causes, all of them sought a better American society.

**UNIT RESOURCES**

**Internet Resource Links:**

<http://www.academicamerican.com/progressive/topics/progressive.html>  
<http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/modules/progressivism/index.cfm>  
<http://www.nwhm.org/online-exhibits/progressiveera/home.html>

**STAGE ONE**

**GOALS AND STANDARDS**

Goal:

6.1.12. U.S. History: America in the World. All students will acquire the knowledge and skills to think analytically about how past and present interactions of people, cultures, and the environment shape the American heritage. Such knowledge and skills enable students to make informed decisions that reflect fundamental rights and core democratic values as productive citizens in local, national, and global communities.

**ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS**

1. Numerous social and political inequalities created a need for reform in America during the early 1900s
2. The Progressives worked in a multi-partisan and middle-class effort to bring about the changes they sought.
3. Explain the overall successes and failures of the Progressive Movement

### ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

1. To what extent did Progressivism build on the earlier demands made by the Populists?
2. Was the Progressive Era one of the most critical eras in American history?
3. Why was the Progressive Era so important in shaping the America of today?
4. The Civil War produced 3 Constitutional amendments. The Progressive Era produced four amendments. What was it about this time period that demanded such drastic and permanent changes in the basic structure of American society?

### KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

SWBAT:

1. identify the muckrakers and their accomplishments.
2. explain contributions made by African American leaders, such as W.E.B. DuBois and Booker T. Washington.
3. define progressivism as a reform movement encompassing social, political, and economic change.
4. describe political reform instituted at the federal, state, and local levels (i.e., *initiative*, *referendum*, *recall*, etc...)
5. illustrate the impact Progressivism had on national politics through the administrations of Theodore Roosevelt, William Taft, and Woodrow Wilson.
6. analyze the impact of progressivism reform on African American and women's suffrage.

## STAGE TWO

### PERFORMANCE TASKS

**Title:** The Jungle

Students will read "The Jungle" and then complete one of the following activities:

1. Write an essay examining the problems with the meat industry at the turn of the century. Draw comparisons to problems/concerns in today's meat industry
2. Create a book and re-tell "The Jungle" through paraphrase and illustration. Must be at least 10 pages
3. Draw a movie poster for "The Jungle". All the major characters and at least 3 major events from novel should be depicted.

**Title:** There Ought to be a Law

Upon completion of the Progressive Era, students will create a poster/pamphlet concerning a contemporary issue that they feel needs to be reformed. At least 3 facts about the issue and 3 reasons for the change must be given. Some ideas include longer school day/year, raising/lowering the driving age, "sin taxes" on unhealthy foods.

**OTHER EVIDENCE**

tests/quizzes

worksheets

class debate on the pros and cons of Progressivism

**STAGE THREE**

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

Students will read "The Jungle" by Upton Sinclair and complete a guided reading activity as they do.