Becoming American
History of Immigration
1880-1924
Period 1
Complete the K and W sections of the chart:

- What do you already know about the topic of immigration?
- What would you like to learn?

Ask yourself: what is immigration?
What is Immigration?

Do you know someone from another state?

Do you know someone from another country?

What is the difference between moving to Philadelphia from another city in the United State versus from another country?
Let's define immigration.

What Does Immigration Mean?

Immigration is the action of coming to live permanently in a foreign country.
Immigration Statistics

U.S. FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION BY REGION OF BIRTH

1900
- 86% Europe
- 1% Asia
- 1% Latin America
- 11% Other Regions

2007
- 54% Latin America
- 27% Asia
- 4% Africa
- 3% Other Regions
- 13% Europe

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census; Figures are rounded.
Map of Immigrants to the United States: 1820 - 2000
## Major Waves of Immigration to the United States: 1820 - 2000

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Total Waves: 6

1. **Western Europe**
2. **Russia/Eastern Europe**
3. **Germany**
4. **Poland**
5. **Czechoslovakia**
6. **Sweden**
Looking Backward (1893)

What do you see in this political cartoon? Describe the details.

What do you think is this political cartoon about?

Why do you think these former immigrants would want to stop this man from entering the country?

Do you think this cartoon is in favor of immigration, or against it?
Anti-Immigration Laws

Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882
- Refused entry to new Chinese immigrants.
- Stopped Chinese immigrants already in the U.S. from becoming citizens.

Johnson-Reed Act of 1924
- Refused entry to all Asian immigrants.
- Set up restrictive quotas for entry to the U.S. that mostly affected Eastern European Jews.
Becoming American
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Period 2
Answer the following questions:

- What were the major waves of immigration?
- Did all immigrants want to come to America?
- What were a few of the different perspectives on the arrival of new immigrants?

Be prepared to share your answers with the class.
What are the major reasons that immigrants came to America at the turn of the 20th century?

Pull factors

Push factors

Until 1924, America accepted most immigrants, unlike many other countries. America also offered excellent economic and educational opportunities.
The Pale of Settlement was created in 1791 during the division of Poland between Germany and Russia. Within this area, Jewish people lived in shtetls or small towns.
Push and Pull Factors: Pogroms

In the 1880s, attacks on the Jews, called pogroms lead to many deaths.

Over time, discrimination against the Jews increased.
Greetings from Philadelphia, Pa.
Post Cards

I see...

I think...

I wonder...
Do Now

Find the following locations on your map:

» Moscow
» Saint Petersburg
» Kiev

Which group can find them the fastest?
Immigration to the United States

What do you need to figure out?

What do you need to do?

What items do you need?
Voyage to America

To get to a seaport, many travelled hundreds of miles across Europe. When they arrived at the port, they bought tickets and boarded a steamship.
Crossing the Ocean

Many ship lines offered this journey, but they could take up to 14 days on the journey from Europe to America.

What would you do on a trip that was that long?

What do you think life on the ship was like?
As many as 2,000 people crowded the ships. Tickets for steerage class were the least expensive but conditions are steerage decks were terrible.
Entering America

Ellis Island Immigration Station served as the gateway to the US for a majority of immigrants.

Source: National Park Service
All immigrants had to undergo health, legal, and intelligence tests when they came to the United States. These were to ensure that a new immigrant would not become a public charge.
Inspection Questions

- Are there any questions you don’t know the answer to?
- How would you feel, telling a stranger the answers to these questions?
- Do you think all of these questions are necessary?
- Imagine you’re the inspection worker. Is there any information you would want to know about incoming immigrants that these questions do not cover?
Continuing the Journey

People who passed the inspection process were able to start their lives in America.

The Linchuk Family arrives in Philadelphia.

What are the next steps for this family?
Completing an Oral History

- Who is this person?
- Where did they come from? When?
- Why did they want to come? Did America provide what they hoped to find?
- Are they a citizen of the United States? If so, how did that happen?
- Do they feel American? A mix? Something else? Why?