

DISCOVER AMERICA

Course 21 - Teacher Guide



Journey to Ellis Island: Exploring Immigration

Table of **Contents**

Themes & Values

Learning Objectives

Key Terms

Introduction

Lesson

Ellis Island Immigration Experience

Multiple Choice Review

Answer Key

Resources

Notes

Third Grade Teacher Guide



Key Themes

- Immigration
- Journey and Exploration
- Important American Symbols

Core Values

- Community
- Life
- Faith
- Liberty

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Identify the Statue of Liberty.
- Identify Ellis Island.
- Define immigration.
- List two reasons why people move to the United States.
- Examine the Transatlantic Journey and its significance for immigrants.



Ellis Island - Third Grade

Key Terms

- 01 **gateway:** something that gives you the opportunity to make progress or to further success in that activity.
- 02 **immigrant:** someone who moves from their home country to another country to start a new life.
- 03 **immigrant aid society:** an organization designed to help immigrants.
- 04 **inspection:** the process of gathering information about the world.
- 05 **opportunity:** a situation in which it is possible for you to do something that you want to do.

Ellis Island - Third Grade

Introduction

TELL Students

Let's pretend that we are going on a trip to another country. Today, if you want to go to another country to visit, you need a passport. Ask students to think about different items they may need on a trip. Make a list of these items with the class using a white board or butcher paper. Then, ask students what items they would take if they were permanently moving to another country. Add a column to your chart and make a list of these items in the new column. Compare each list as you guide students to understand that when you move, you want to take all of your belongings. Tell students that a long time ago, many people came to America. Explain that these people, called immigrants, came through a place called Ellis Island.

ASK Students

Have you heard of Ellis Island? Do you know what American statue stands on Ellis Island?

TELL Students

A long time ago, people who came to Ellis Island were not able to bring all of their belongings. They were only able to bring necessary items. They wanted to come to America. So, many of them left belongings and friends behind to come to America through Ellis Island. Ellis Island is a very special place! We are going to discover what Ellis Island looked like, what people did there, and why it is so important in American history. We will learn about the brave people who traveled across the ocean to get here and the exciting adventures they had when they arrived. Let's watch another episode of Star Spangled Adventures to learn more about Ellis Island!

WATCH

Star Spangled Adventures Cartoon Ep. 21: Ellis Island



Ellis Island - Third Grade

Lesson

TELL Students

Do you know what Chef Boyardee and Albert Einstein have in common? They were both immigrants who came to America! An immigrant is someone who moves from their home country to another country to start a new life. The first settlers in America were also immigrants! People come to America for different reasons. Some need to leave their homeland because there isn't enough food or there is fighting. Others come because they hear about good things in America, like jobs and freedom. Some of your family might have moved to America. Did you know that a lot of Americans can trace their families back to immigrants who came through Ellis Island?

ASK Students

What are some reasons that people come to America?

TELL Students

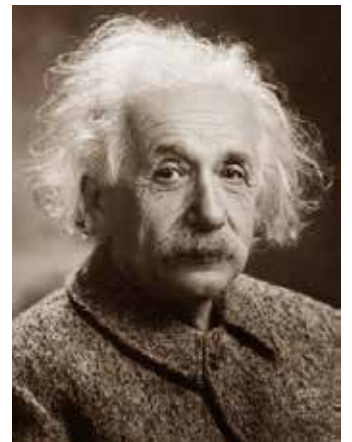
America is a great place with a lot of opportunities. An opportunity is a situation in which it is possible for you to do something that you want to do. Ellis Island was originally a place where pirates and sailors who misbehaved were sent as punishment. Later, it transformed into a welcoming gateway for people from other countries to enter America. A gateway is something that gives you the opportunity to make progress or to further success in that activity. Millions of people, mostly from Europe, came through Ellis Island a long time ago. Many of them came on steamboats. Before steamboats were available, it took a really long time to travel to America, almost three months! But it only took ten days on a steamboat. Even though the journey was still hard, it was faster and safer than before because of the steamboat.

ASK Students

What do you remember about Robert Fulton and the steamboat?

TELL Students

Most immigrants arriving at Ellis Island took a steamboat on what is called the "Transatlantic Journey"



Chef Boyardee (top) and Albert Einstein

Ellis Island - Third Grade

Lesson

across the Atlantic Ocean from Europe. This is a long journey! Steamboats made it possible for more people to travel across the “Transatlantic Journey.” Some people could buy expensive tickets for nice rooms on the top of the steamboat. Others bought cheaper tickets and stayed below deck, where it was crowded and not as nice. Many people became seasick during the trip.

ASK Students

What is the “Transatlantic Journey?” How would you describe this journey?

TELL Students

The first person to arrive at Ellis Island was an Irish teenager named Annie Moore. She came with her younger brothers. Today, there is a statue of Annie and her brothers in the Ellis Island Immigration Museum.

ASK Students

What do you think life was like for immigrants coming to America? Do you think the immigrants were eager to get to America?

TELL Students

Every immigrant had to undergo two inspections. An inspection is when someone looks at every part of something carefully in order to find out about it or check that it is all right. The inspections didn’t take a lot of time – but waiting your turn did! The medical inspection was like a check-up. Doctors looked for signs of sickness. Most people passed the medical inspection. If they had a disease, they went to the Ellis Island hospital until they got better.

ASK Students

What is a medical inspection?

TELL Students

After immigrants finished the medical inspections, they had to go through a legal inspection. The workers on the steamboat had to keep a record of everyone onboard. The United States government

Ellis Island - Third Grade

Lesson

created a form with about 30 questions for immigrants to answer before they left. If someone couldn't come to America, the steamboat had to take them back home and pay a fine to the government.

ASK Students

What would happen if an immigrant could not enter America?

TELL Students

During the legal inspection, immigrants were asked questions they already answered. This helped officials check if their answers were true and if they met the rules to come to the United States. Questions included where they would live and how much money they had. If immigrants didn't have enough money, they could get help from immigrant aid societies. An immigrant aid society is an organization designed to help immigrants. If immigrants did not pass the inspection, they could explain their situation in a hearing. Most immigrants who had a hearing were allowed to enter the United States.

ASK Students

What types of inspections were conducted before immigrants entered America?

TELL Students

After finishing everything at Ellis Island, immigrants were ready to start their new lives in America. Some immigrants found jobs working on farms, in mines, or in factories. Others started their own businesses, worked for other businesses, or even became famous!

Chef Boyardee came from Italy to Ellis Island in 1914. He became a chef at famous hotels and even catered President Woodrow Wilson's wedding! Later, he started selling his pasta sauce. Now you can find Chef Boyardee products in stores.

You might have heard of Albert Einstein, too! He was a very smart scientist who also came to the

Ellis Island - Third Grade

Lesson

United States. He made a big impact on science and even won a Nobel Prize.

When you eat Chef Boyardee pasta or learn about famous scientists like Einstein, think about all the brave immigrants who came to America and helped make our country special.

ASK Students

What famous immigrants came to America? What opportunities did they find in America?

TELL Students

Immigrants came to America for different reasons. But, they all made the brave journey. They knew that our country offered opportunities for a good life. Today, the Statue of Liberty stands on Ellis Island. It represents the spirit of America. There are seven spikes on the Statue of Liberty's crown. These spikes represent the seven continents. Immigrants came from all seven continents through Ellis Island.

ASK Students

Where is the Statue of Liberty located? What does it represent?

WATCH

Learn More With Liberty Video: Sailing to the Land of Liberty



Nobel Prize



Statue of Liberty

Ellis Island - Third Grade

Ellis Island Immigration Experience

Objective: To engage third grade students in an interactive learning activity to understand the immigrant experience at Ellis Island.

Materials Needed:

1. Classroom setup to resemble Ellis Island immigration station (tables, chairs, signs).
2. Pictures or posters depicting scenes from Ellis Island.
3. Immigrant identification cards (printouts with fictional immigrant names and details).
4. Inspection stations with props (e.g., stethoscope for medical inspection, immigration officer badges).
5. Immigrant aid society booth with props (e.g., pretend money, food items).
6. Written instructions for each station.

Introduction:

- Gather students and review the topic of Ellis Island and immigration to the United States.
- Show pictures or posters depicting scenes from Ellis Island and discuss its significance in American history.
- Explain that students will participate in a simulation of the Ellis Island immigration process to better understand the challenges immigrants faced.

Immigration Simulation:

- Divide the class into small groups and assign each group a starting point in the simulation.
- Rotate groups through different stations representing different stages of the immigration process:
 - a.** Arrival: Students receive immigrant identification cards with fictional names and details.
 - b.** Medical Inspection: Students undergo a simple medical check-up (e.g., checking temperature, listening to heartbeat).

c. Legal Inspection: Students answer questions about their background and intentions in America posed by "immigration officers."

d. Immigrant Aid Society: Students learn about the assistance available to immigrants and receive support (e.g., food, money).

- *At each station, students interact with props and volunteers acting as immigration officers or aid society representatives.*

- *Encourage students to role-play as immigrants.*

Reflection and Discussion:

- Gather students and facilitate a discussion about their experiences during the simulation.

- Ask students to share their thoughts and feelings about the immigration process and the challenges immigrants faced.

- Discuss the importance of Ellis Island as a symbol of hope and opportunity for millions of immigrants.

- Conclude by emphasizing the contributions of immigrants to American society and the value of diversity.

Extension Activity:

- Encourage students to research their own family history and discuss any immigrant ancestors they may have.

This interactive learning activity provides students with a hands-on experience to deepen their understanding of Ellis Island and the immigrant journey to America.

Ellis Island - Third Grade

Multiple Choice Review

Instructions: Please read each question carefully and circle the correct answer.

1. What document do you need to travel to another country?

- a. plane ticket
- b. passport
- c. library card
- d. school ID

2. What was Ellis Island originally used for before it became an immigration center?

- a. a punishment site for sailors
- b. a vacation destination
- c. a military base
- d. a trading post

3. Who were immigrants?

- a. People who move to another country to start a new life.
- b. People who stay in their own country.
- c. People who visit other countries for vacation.
- d. People who travel for business.

4. What made the Transatlantic Journey shorter and safer for immigrants?

- a. cars
- b. steamboats
- c. horses
- d. bicycles

5. Who was the first person to arrive at Ellis Island?

- a. Annie Moore
- b. Albert Einstein
- c. Chef Boyardee
- d. Robert Fulton

6. What happened during the medical inspection at Ellis Island?

- a. Immigrants answered questions about their background.
- b. Doctors checked for signs of sickness.
- c. Immigrants received help from aid societies.
- d. Immigrants explained their situation in a hearing

7. What did immigrants have to answer during the legal inspection?

- a. Questions they hadn't heard before.
- b. Questions they already answered on the ship.
- c. Questions about their favorite food.
- d. Questions about their pets.

8. What does the Statue of Liberty represent?

- a. freedom and opportunity
- b. punishment
- c. wealth and power
- d. sadness and loneliness

Ellis Island - Third Grade

Answer Key

Instructions: Please read each question carefully and circle the correct answer.

1. What document do you need to travel to another country?

- a. plane ticket
- b. passport**
- c. library card
- d. school ID

2. What was Ellis Island originally used for before it became an immigration center?

- a. a punishment site for sailors**
- b. a vacation destination
- c. a military base
- d. a trading post

3. Who were immigrants?

- a. People who move to another country to start a new life.**
- b. People who stay in their own country.
- c. People who visit other countries for vacation.
- d. People who travel for business.

4. What made the Transatlantic Journey shorter and safer for immigrants?

- a. cars
- b. steamboats**
- c. horses
- d. bicycles

5. Who was the first person to arrive at Ellis Island?

- a. Annie Moore**
- b. Albert Einstein
- c. Chef Boyardee
- d. Robert Fulton

6. What happened during the medical inspection at Ellis Island?

- a. Immigrants answered questions about their background.
- b. Doctors checked for signs of sickness.**
- c. Immigrants received help from aid societies.
- d. Immigrants explained their situation in a hearing

7. What did immigrants have to answer during the legal inspection?

- a. Questions they hadn't heard before.
- b. Questions they already answered on the ship.**
- c. Questions about their favorite food.
- d. Questions about their pets.

8. What does the Statue of Liberty represent?

- a. freedom and opportunity**
- b. punishment
- c. wealth and power
- d. sadness and loneliness

Ellis Island - Third Grade Resource List

<https://www.nps.gov/media/video/view.htm?id=4BA86258-4024-4710-9329-40BDA66102EF>

<https://www.history.com/topics/immigration/ellis-island>

<https://www.nps.gov/elis/learn/education/eie-series.htm>

<https://daily.jstor.org/the-curious-history-of-ellis-island/>

<https://www.history.com/news/9-things-you-may-not-know-about-ellis-island>

<https://daily.jstor.org/the-curious-history-of-ellis-island/>

<https://www.nps.gov/media/video/view.htm?id=36C0B1E7-431E-48BB-9D5E-8E98E0C2E0DE>

<https://www.nps.gov/media/video/view.htm?id=E5F6E193-4342-4F94-9523-8C13B4A7A7AB>

<https://www.nps.gov/media/video/view.htm?id=8B7E4516-0E9D-4C91-8C86-78D4E1D8E805>

<https://www.chefboyardee.com/articles/hector-boiardi-chefs-resume>

<https://www.chefboyardee.com/articles/chef-boyardee-restaurant-your-table>

<https://www.statueofliberty.org/discover/famous-passengers/>

<https://www.discovermagazine.com/the-sciences/a-century-ago-einsteins-first-trip-to-the-u-s-ended-in-a-pr-disaster>

<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/physics/1921/einstein/biographical/>

