Reconstruction STUDY GUIDE (ANSWER KEY)

**Standard VS.8a:** SWBAT demonstrate knowledge of the reconstruction of Virginia following the Civil War by identifying the effects of Reconstruction on life in Virginia.

**Reconstruction** - The period following the **Civil War** in which Congress passed laws designed to rebuild the country and bring the southern states back into the Union.

**Problems faced by Virginians during Reconstruction**
- Millions of freed African Americans needed
  - (1) housing  (2) education  (3) clothing  (4) food  (5) jobs
- Virginia's economy was in ruins:
  - Money had no value.
  - Banks were closed.
  - Railroads, bridges, plantations, and crops were destroyed.

**Measures taken to resolve problems**
- The **Freedmen's Bureau** was a government agency that provided (1) food, (2) schools, and (3) medical care for freed African Americans and others in Virginia.
- **Sharecropping** was a system common in Virginia after the war in which freedmen and poor white farmers rented land from a landowner by promising to pay the owner with a share of the crop.

**Standard VS.8b:** SWBAT demonstrate knowledge of the reconstruction of Virginia following the Civil War by identifying the effects of segregation and “Jim Crow” on life in Virginia for whites, African Americans, and American Indians.

**Terms to know**
- Segregation: The separation of people, usually based on race or religion
- Discrimination: An unfair difference in the treatment of people
During Reconstruction, African Americans began to have power in Virginia’s government, and men of all races could vote.

After Reconstruction, these gains were lost when “Jim Crow” Laws were passed by southern states. These laws established segregation or separation of the races and reinforced prejudices held by whites.

“Jim Crow” laws had an effect on the lives of African Americans and American Indians.

- Unfair poll taxes & voting tests were created to keep African American men from voting.
- African Americans found it very difficult to vote or hold public office.
- African American and white children attended separate schools.
- African Americans were forced to use separate poor quality services, such as:
  - drinking fountains
  - restrooms
  - restaurants
- “Jim Crow” laws also had an effect on American Indians.

Standard VS.8c: SWBAT demonstrate knowledge of the reconstruction of Virginia following the Civil War by describing the importance of railroads, new industries, and the growth of cities to Virginia’s economic development.

Virginia began to grow in many areas after the Civil War and Reconstruction.

- Virginia’s cities grew with people, businesses, and factories.
- Railroads were a key to the expansion of business, agriculture, and industry. They facilitated the growth of small towns to cities.
- Other parts of Virginia grew as other industries developed. Coal deposits were discovered in Tazewell County.
- The need for more and better roads increased.
- Tobacco farming and tobacco products became important Virginia industries.

Study Hard! Your QUIZ is on __________________