

VS.8b

Virginia: Reconstruction and Life in Virginia Today

The freedoms and rights promised to African Americans were slowly taken away after Reconstruction, when laws were passed that made it almost impossible for them to vote and hold office.

Terms to Know

- **segregation:** the separation of people, usually based on race or religion
- **prejudices:** *negative opinions formed about people without proof*
- **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. Virginia adopted a new Constitution that banned slavery and gave African-American men the right to vote.

Segregation:
the separation of people,
usually based on race or
religion

Discrimination:
an unfair difference in the
treatment of people



Jim Crow Laws


- The term "Jim Crow" came from a theater character who was constantly pushed around. This character did not stand up for himself.
- Jim Crow Laws: These laws stated that black and white people would be "Separate but Equal."
- Jim Crow Laws discriminated against African Americans in VA and other southern states. These laws reinforced prejudice.

Jim Crow laws made it difficult for African Americans to vote or hold a public office.

Unfair voting taxes and tests were given to African Americans.

African Americans and white Americans had separate drinking fountains.

African Americans and white Americans went to different schools.

Problem	Solution
Freed slaves needed food, housing and jobs.	The Freedman's Bureau was created.
Money had no value. Banks were closed.	Sharecropping was created. 
Railroads, bridges, crops & plantations destroyed.	had to rebuild

Jim Crow Laws

Read each "Jim Crow" law below. (These were REAL laws passed by Southern states!) On the line, write what was being segregated.

Baseball Parks	Bathrooms Railroads	Jails Restaurants	Movie Theatres Schools
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_____ 1. It shall be unlawful for colored people to frequent any park owned or maintained by the city for the benefit, use and enjoyment of white persons...and unlawful for any white person to frequent any park owned or maintained by the city for the use and benefit of colored persons. (*Georgia Law*)

_____ 2. It shall be unlawful for any white baseball team to play baseball on any baseball diamond within two blocks of a playground devoted to the Negro race, and it shall be unlawful for any colored baseball team to play baseball in any baseball diamond within two blocks of any playground devoted to the white race. (*Georgia Law*)

_____ 3. The conductors or managers on all railroads are hereby required to assign to each white or colored passenger his or her respective car, coach or compartment. (*Virginia Law*)

_____ 4. Every person...operating...any public hall, theatre, opera house, motion picture show or any place of public entertainment which is attended by both white and colored persons, shall separate the white race and the colored race and shall set apart and designate...certain seats to be occupied by white persons and certain seats to be occupied by colored persons. (*Virginia Law*)




_____ 5. Every employer of white or Negro males shall provide for such white or negro males reasonably accessible and separate toilet facilities. (*Alabama Law*)

_____ 6. Separate free schools shall be established for the education of children of - African descent; and it shall be unlawful for any colored child to attend any white school, or any white child to attend a colored school. (*Missouri Law*)

_____ 7. The prison warden shall see that the white convicts shall have separate apartments for both eating and sleeping from the Negro convicts. (*Mississippi Law*)

_____ 8. It shall be unlawful to conduct a restaurant or other place for the serving of food in the city, at which white and colored people are served in the same room, unless such white and colored persons are separated by a solid partition extending from the floor upward to a distance of seven feet or higher, and unless a separate entrance from the street is provided for each compartment. (*Alabama Law*)



The background of the entire slide is a repeating pattern of 100 US dollar bills, oriented diagonally. The bills are light green and feature the portrait of Benjamin Franklin. Two black rounded rectangular boxes with green borders are overlaid on the pattern. The top box contains the title, and the bottom box contains a supporting statement.

The growth of Virginia's Economy after the Civil War.

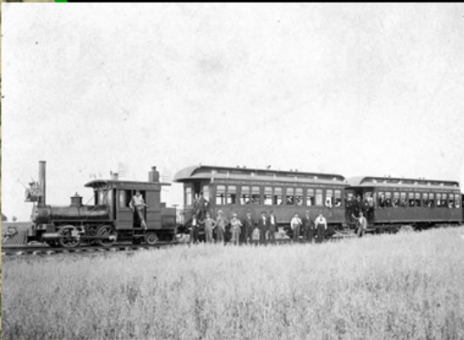
Reconstruction helped Virginia's Economy grow.



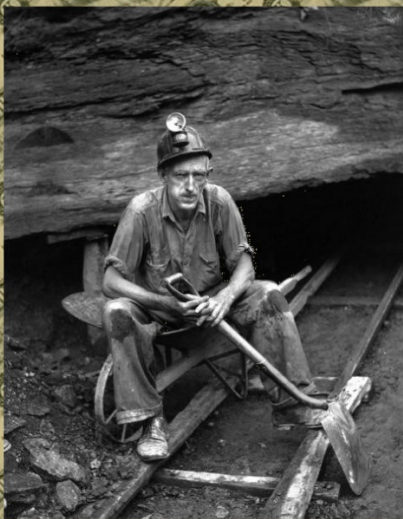
More people were traveling, so the cities got bigger and they built more roads.



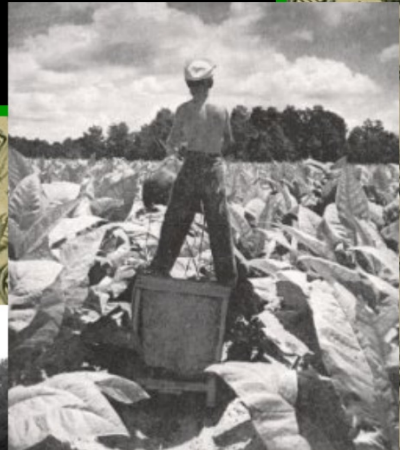
Railroads helped small towns grow into cities. Many factories and businesses were built around railroad centers.



Coal was discovered in Tazewell County in the This discovery made many new jobs for people.




Tobacco farming once again became an important crop in Virginia.



Virginia: Reconstruction and Life in Virginia Today

After the Civil War, advances in industry, technology, and transportation were key factors to Virginia's growing economy.

After the Civil War and Reconstruction, industries, technology, and cities contributed to Virginia's economy.

- As more people traveled, Virginia's cities grew with more people, businesses, and factories. The need for more and better roads increased.
- Railroads were a key to the expansion of business, agriculture, and industry. *They helped small towns grow into cities. Railroad centers attracted the building of factories where clothing, furniture, and other useful items were made.* 
- Other parts of Virginia grew as other industries developed. Coal deposits, discovered in Tazewell County after the Civil War and in nearby counties, became a source of new jobs for residents of southwest Virginia.
- Tobacco farming and tobacco products recovered from the effects of the Civil War and again became an important Virginia industry.





The Railroad

After the Civil War, cities began to grow and contribute to Virginia's economy.

VA and other southern states grew in the following ways:

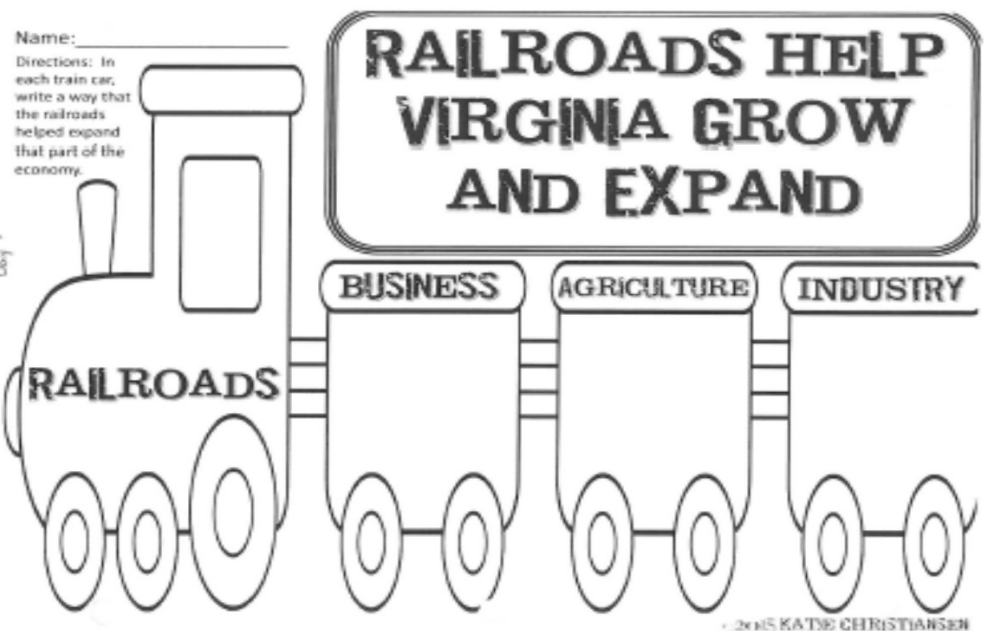
- Factories were built and produced many items.
- Roads were being constructed.
- More people began moving to the city.



Railroads were a key to the expansion of business, agriculture, and industry. Railroads helped small towns grow into large cities. They made it easy to transport natural resources to factories.

Day 7

Name: _____
Directions: In each train car, write a way that the railroads helped expand that part of the economy.



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IMPORTANT AMENDMENTS

- **13th Amendment**- Legally abolished (ended) slavery
- **14th Amendment**- Stated that all people have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. **This amendment recognized blacks as citizens.**
- **15th Amendment**- Gave African-American men the privilege to vote