

Human Timeline

Kinesthetic activities like the human timeline and human slideshow help students retain information in their long term memory because the students remember the experience along with the information. Some students need mobility to learn a concept. This is a quick activity to help students remember critical dates and relative time periods that are tested on TAKS.

Absolute and Relative Chronology:

Absolute Chronology depends on knowing the precise date including **the day, month and/or year of the event**. To sequence events in absolute chronology means to organize them in an order- that is from oldest to most recent. **Relative chronology** depends less on specific dates and more on **relationships of events**. To sequence events, individuals, and time periods, students must understand past, present and future time. Students must also be able to identify the beginning, middle, and end of an event or story. Students are expected to structure a story, creating their own sequence by developing a topic from its beginning to its conclusion. Students are expected to create and interpret timelines, identify intervals of time, and order events in the sequence of occurrence and in relation to other events.

Absolute Chronology: 1607, 1776, 1787, 1803 and 1861-1865.

Relative Chronology: Revolutionary War, Age of Jackson and Reconstruction.

TEKS Addressed:

(8.1) History: The student understands traditional historical points of reference in U.S. history through 1877. The student is expected to

- (A) identify the major eras in U.S. history through 1877 and describe their defining characteristics;
- (B) apply absolute and relative chronology through the sequencing of significant individuals, events and time periods; and
- (C) explain the significance of the following dates: [1607], **1776, 1787**, [1803] and **1861-1865**.

Time:5 – 10 minutes

Procedure:

Distribute the flashcards to students.
Ask the students to arrange themselves in chronological order.

Modification:

Place magnets behind the flashcards.
Have students arrange the flashcards in chronological order on a magnetic surface.

Materials:

Flashcards
Magnets (for modification)
Magnetic surface

Jamestown



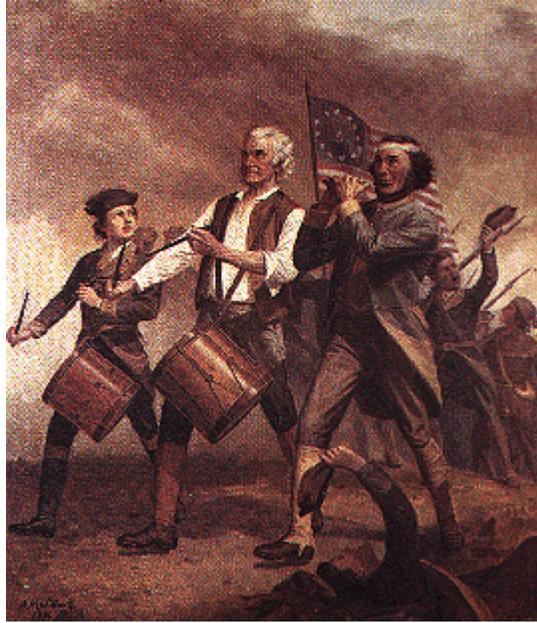
http://www.wrl.org/programs/images/calendar_images/jamestown.gif

Colonial Period



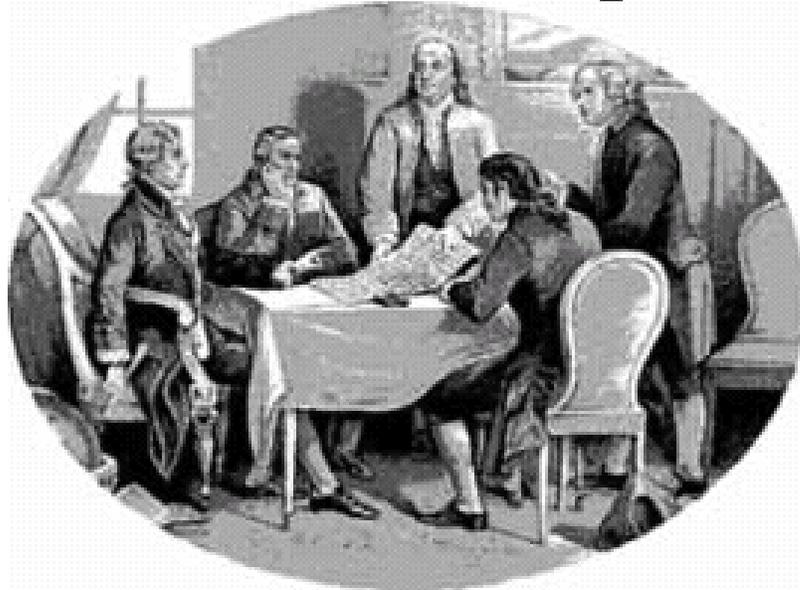
<http://odur.let.rug.nl/~usa/images/image2.jpg>

American Revolution



<http://www.villageofwellington.com/index/1776pic.gif>

Declaration of Independence



<http://www.rjgeib.com/thoughts/jefferson/independence.jpg>

Constitution



http://www.vmfa.state.va.us/collections/50_2_1.jpg

Early National Period



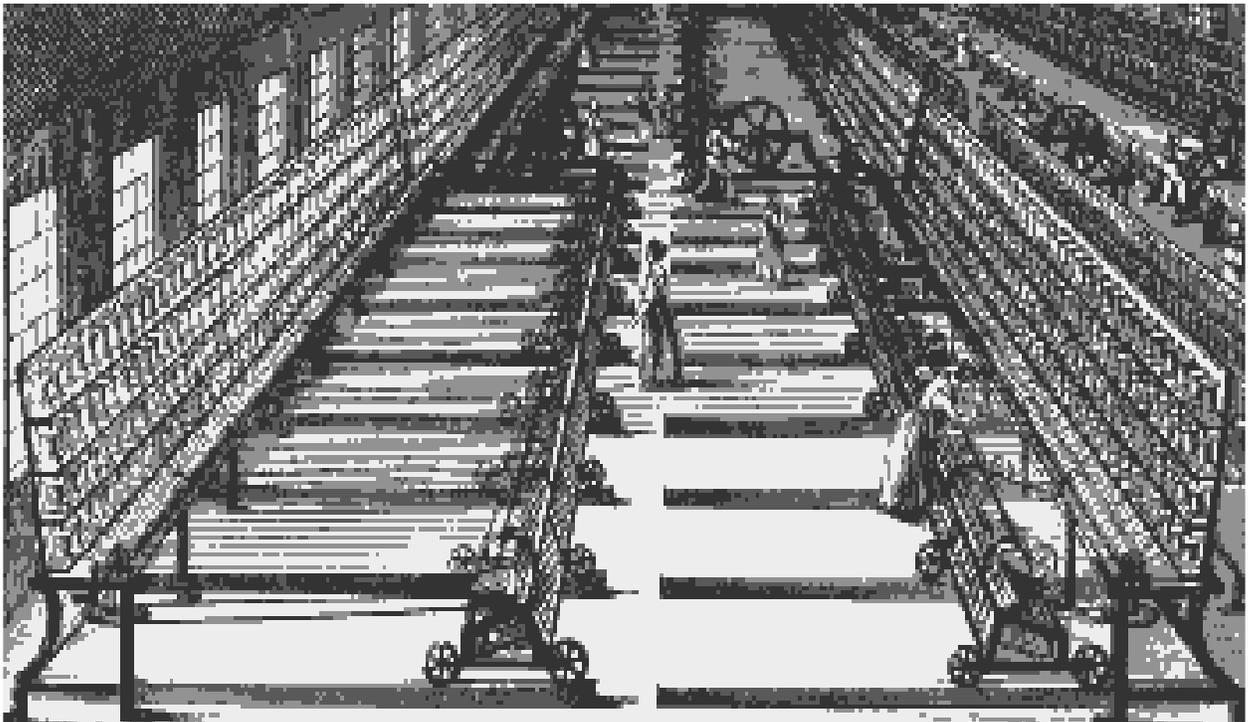
http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/images/george_washington_and_cabinet.gif

Louisiana Purchase



<http://www.stjosephmuseum.org/LewisClark/lcimages/lamap.jpg>

Industrial Revolution



http://www.thehistorychannel.co.uk/classroom/gcse/industrial_rev1.htm

Age of Jackson



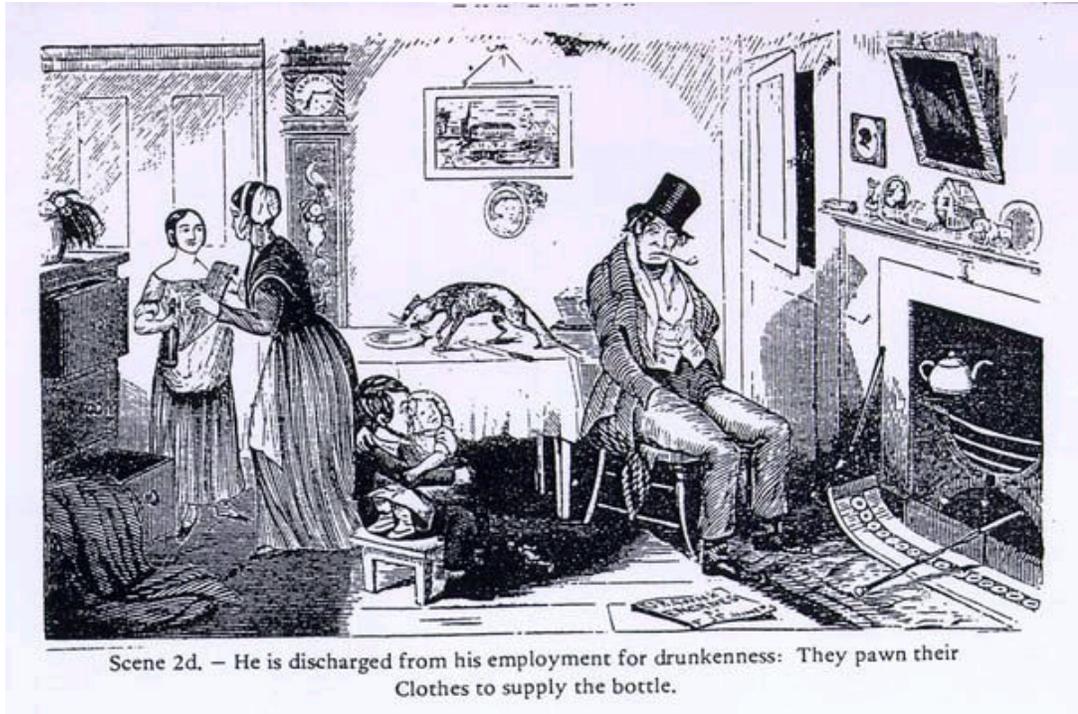
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aia/part4/images/4tear44m.jpg>

Westward Expansion



http://www.teach-nology.com/worksheets/soc_studies/bulletin/west6.gif&imgrefurl

Reform Movement



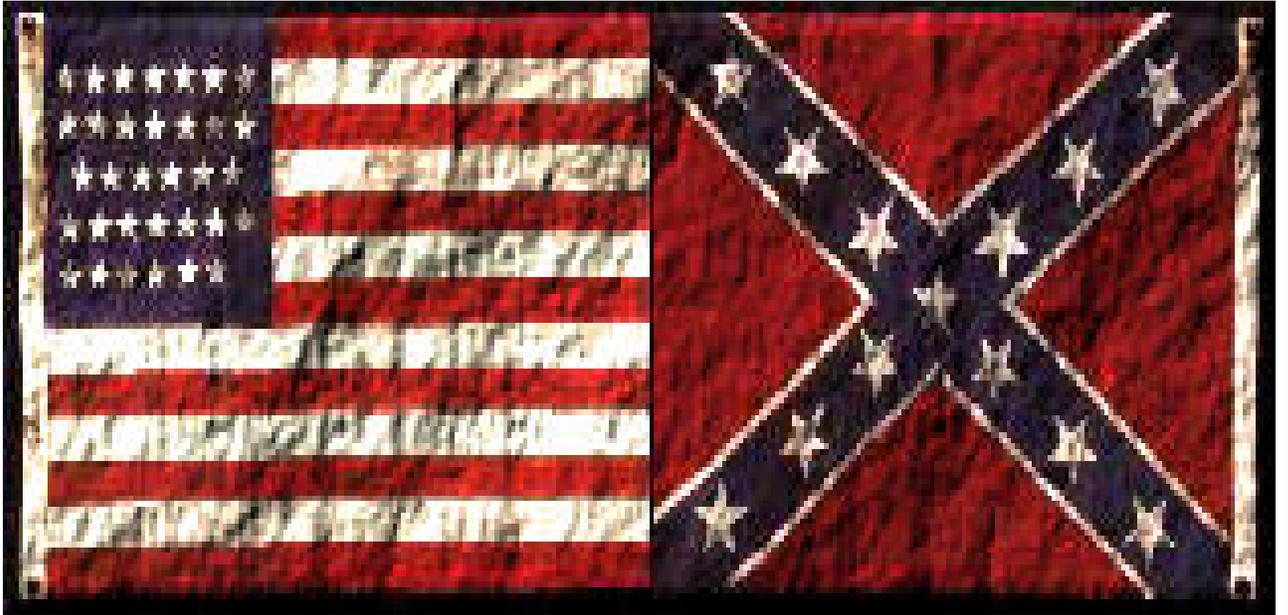
<http://www.iath.virginia.edu/dickinson/classroom/temper/bottle2.jpg>

Coming of the Civil War



<http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/history/waughj/classes/civilwar/gburgtrip/gburg>

Civil War



<http://www.us-civilwar.com/>

Human Slide Show

Have students arrange themselves in chronological order and read the excerpts behind their slide. The students should resemble a carousel of a slide projector. Say “click, click” when the slide is ready to change places.

1607- The first permanent English settlement in North America in 1607 established by representatives of the Virginia Company of London. The Virginia Company, a joint-stock company founded by investors in England, called it Jamestown in honor of King James I of England.

Colonial Period – Settlements that were under the control of the British crown. Thirteen colonies were established along the Atlantic coast.

American Revolution – Tensions between the colonies and England came to a head with “the shot heard around the world” on April 19, 1775 with the battles of Lexington and Concord. After the colonies declared independence from England in July 1776, the war for freedom was unavoidable. Colonists who supported independence were called Patriots and colonists who supported Britain were called Loyalists. Both parties believed that the war would be short.

1776- At the Second Continental Congress, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia made a motion that a committee write an inspirational document, to explain to the world, the reasons why the colonies needed independence. The committee included Thomas Jefferson and he asked for the protection of the “unalienable rights” of humankind, in addition to the British rights. On July 4, fifty six representatives from the thirteen original colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence.

1787- Between May 25 and September 17, 1787, delegates gathered in Philadelphia to revise the Articles of Confederation. They drafted, argued, compromised and finally approved for ratification the Constitution of the United States. The debate for ratification continued into 1788 as Federalists and Anti-Federalists argued over states' rights, human liberties and governmental authority. By 1790, all of the thirteen states had adopted the Constitution.

Early National Period- George Washington became the first president in 1789. Washington's administration faced the task of making a new government work. Washington set the precedents of procedures and customs of presidents to come. Some of these precedents were: naming a cabinet, directing foreign affairs, and serving as chief legislator. In Washington's cabinet, Hamilton and Jefferson often disagreed over economics, foreign policy and the powers of the Constitution which later evolved into political parties.

1803- President Thomas Jefferson bought the Louisiana Territory from Napoleon Bonaparte of France for \$15 million dollars in 1803. The purchase doubled the size of the United States. Thirteen states evolved from the Louisiana Purchase: Louisiana, Missouri, Arkansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming and Oklahoma.

Industrial Revolution- New sources of power including the steam engine freed manufacturers to experiment with new ways to make products. Steam power was more reliable than water power. A period of rapid industrial growth started in Britain in the 1700's but spread quickly all over the world as countries adopted mass production of goods. Items were made in factories and not by hand. More goods were produced faster and cheaper. Factory laborers replaced craftsmen and home production.

Age of Jackson – The United State's political system changed under Andrew Jackson. Americans admired him as patriot, a self-made man and a war hero. Jackson was nicknamed “Old Hickory” because he was tough as a hickory stick. His popularity with the common man changed politics in Washington, D.C. His political style became known as Jacksonian Democracy. He increased the power of the executive branch.

Westward Expansion – Americans accept the idea of Manifest Destiny. The lure of gold and the promise of religious freedom drew many settlers westward. As the East coast became crowded, Americans wanted more land, furs, lumber and precious metals. As a result, Native Americans are forced off their lands, wars evolve with Mexico and the United States extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

Reform Movement – The second Great Awakening was a revival of religious faith. Baptists, Methodists, and Presbyterians became more confident in the United States. During the 1830's and 1840's, women were taking a more active role in churches and missionary societies. Reformers sought out to change unfair labor practices, increase nutrition, and improve conditions for the poor, the enslaved, the imprisoned, women, alcoholics and the disabled. The most powerful reform movements were led by the abolitionists and the suffragists.

Background to the Civil War- Slavery was a major cause of the worsening division between the North and South in the period before the Civil War. The struggle between the North and South turned more hostile and talk grew of separation and civil war. Topics such as slavery, the West, Acts of 1850 and 1854, the Dred Scott case and Lincoln/Douglas Debates lead to the Civil War. With the election of Abraham Lincoln, secession and war were inevitable.

1861-1865 – President Lincoln became president of the United States. The Civil War began on April 12th with shots firing on Fort Sumter by Confederate troops along the coast of Charleston, South Carolina. Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina and Tennessee seceded after the war was declared. The Civil War lasted 4 years. In 1865, Union troops surrounded Gen. Robert E. Lee. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House in Virginia. Six days later, President Abraham Lincoln died from an assassin's bullet at Ford's theater.

Information was derived from the [Social Studies Center Glossary](#) section in grade 8 U.S. History and [The American Republic to 1877](#). Glencoe McGraw-Hill, 2003.