Economics History Day Topics List

Social Studies Content Standards

- 1. Develop and apply economic reasoning and decision-making skills.
- 2. Evaluate how societies answer three basic economic questions: what goods and services to produce, how to produce them, and for whom are they produced.
- Explain how prices are set in a market economy using supply and demand graphs and will determine how price provides incentives to buyers and sellers.
- 4. Evaluate how changes in the level of competition in different markets affect prices.
- Describe the role of economic institutions, including banks, credit unions, corporations, governments, and not-for-profits in a market economy.
- Analyze how money makes it easier to trade, borrow, save, invest, and compare the value of goods and services.
- 7. Evaluate how interest rates impact decisions in the market economy.
- 8. Analyze the role of entrepreneurs and laborers in a market economy.
- 9. Evaluate the economic role of government in a free market and a mixed market economy.
- 10. Examine the current economic conditions in the United States.
- 11. Identify the basic measure of a nation's economic output and income.
- 12. Explain the role of inflation and unemployment in an economic system.
- Identify the potential economic impact of policy changes by the Federal Reserve and federal government.

Example Topic for History Day

- The Whiskey Rebellion: How Taxes and Transport Costs Led to Armed Insurrection
- Andrew Jackson, The Second Bank of the United States, and the Panic of 1837
- Robert L. Owen, the Father of Child Labor Laws
- World War I, Wheat Prices, and the Dust Bowl
- Tenant Farming, Sharecropping, and the Great Depression
- Penn Square Bank: Speculation and Hyper-Inflation
- The New Deal and Oklahoma's State Parks
- Depression, Dust Bowl, and the Road West
- Agrarian vs. Industrial Socialism and Progressive Oklahoma
- The Short Term Effects and Long Term Effectiveness of Prohibition
- Humanitarian Issues and For-Profit Prisons
- The Northern System vs. the Southern System:
 How All of America Profited from Slavery
- Tariffs: Barriers to Free Enterprise or Protectionist Sources of Revenue?
- Glass-Steagall: Defender of America's Upward Mobility or Unnecessary Barrier to Corporate Profits?
- Henry Ford and the Minimum Wage: How one of America's Most Anti-Union Entrepreneurs Established One of Its Most Progressive Wage Systems
- News Boy Strike of 1899
- United Fruit Company: America Profiting off of Central American Plantations
- Young Lords Free Breakfast for Children Plan
- Occupy Wall Street: Protesting Wealth Gaps in America
- Slave Labor: The Backbone of the Southern Economy Pre-Civil War