

Progressive Era Definitions

- Gilded Age- Time period in American history between 1870-1890, marked by political corruption and extravagant spending
- Wisconsin Idea-series of progressive reforms introduced in the early 1900's by Wisconsin Governor Robert La Follette
- Spoils System- practice of rewarding supporters for government jobs
- Primary- election which voters choose their party's candidate for the general election
- Public Interest- the good of the people
- Political Boss- powerful politician who controls work done locally and demands payoffs from business
- Graduated Income Tax- tax on earnings that charges different rates for different income levels.
- Trustbuster- person who wanted to break up trusts
- Initiative- process by which voters can put a bill directly before the state legislature
- Conservation- protection of natural resources
- Civil Service Exam- test taken for federal jobs. The jobs are awarded to those who score the highest.
- ICC- interstate commerce commission. Government agency organized to oversee railroad commerce
- Temperance movement- campaign against alcohol consumption
- Suffrage- the right to vote
- Muckrackers- journalist who exposed corruption and other problems at the turn of the century.
- Referendum- process by which people vote directly on a bill
- Recall- process by which voters can remove an elected official from office
- Hull House- settlement house founded by Progressive reformer Jane Adams in Chicago in 1889.

- Ellis Island- place in NYC where new immigrants were “processed” before they could enter America
- Bull Moose Party- Progressive Republicans who supported Theodore Roosevelt during the election of 1912
- Pure Food and Drug Act- a 1906 law that requires food and drug makers to list ingredients on packages.
- 16th Amendment- the Income Tax
- 17th Amendment- Direct Election of Senators
- 18th Amendment- prohibition of alcoholic beverages
- 19th Amendment- Women’s suffrage
- Push Factor- condition that drives people from their homeland
- Pull Factor- condition that attracts people to move to a new area
- Chinese Exclusion Act- 1882 law that barred Chinese laborers from entering the United States
- Acculturation- process of holding on to older traditions while adapting to a new culture
- Prejudice- an unfavourable opinion or feeling formed beforehand or without knowledge, thought, or reason.

PEOPLE

- Boss Tweed- Political Boss of NYC during the Gilded Age
- Susan B. Anthony- worked for women’s suffrage and set up the National Woman Suffrage Association
- Ida Tarbell- Muckracker journalist who wrote an expose on Standard Oil
- Alice Paul- worker for woman’s suffrage but took a more radical stance. She was arrested for picketing the White House.
- WEB DuBois- worked for African American rights and helped organize the NAACP
- Woodrow Wilson- the 28th President of the United States. His program will be called the New Freedom

- William McKinley- the 25th President of the United States. He was assassinated during his Presidency
- Theodore Roosevelt- the 26th President of the United States. He was known as the “trustbuster.”
- William Howard Taft- the 27th President of the United States- He supported many progressive ideas but will often be criticised by them.
- John D. Rockefeller- Industrialist who founded Standard Oil.
- Thomas Nast- Muckraker cartoonist who exposed Boss Tweed’s corruption
- Robert La Follette- Governor of Wisconsin who implemented many progressive ideas which help make government more responsive to the people
- Upton Sinclair- Muckraking journalist who wrote *the Jungle* and exposed the health violations of the meat packing industry.
- Lincoln Steffens- Muckraking journalist who wrote *the Shame of the Cities* and exposed the corruption of the political machines
- Jane Adams- She was a progressive reformer who created Hull House in Chicago in 1889.
- William Jennings Bryan- was a Populist candidate who ran against McKinley and lost.