



Florida Studies Weekly

State History



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Learning From Another Generation

This year, we've been exploring history and hopefully learning from it and enjoying the stories. But all the events we've talked about so far are events that happened so long ago that no one living today is old enough to remember them. This week, let's talk about some history that some people still remember.

Two major events in the first part of the 20th century (1900s) shaped the history of our state and nation. These events will seem like ancient history to your children someday. But you are old enough to know people who lived through these events. You may have a grandfather or a great-grandmother who lived through some of them. In fact, your teacher may be able to arrange for someone who remembers these events to visit your class.

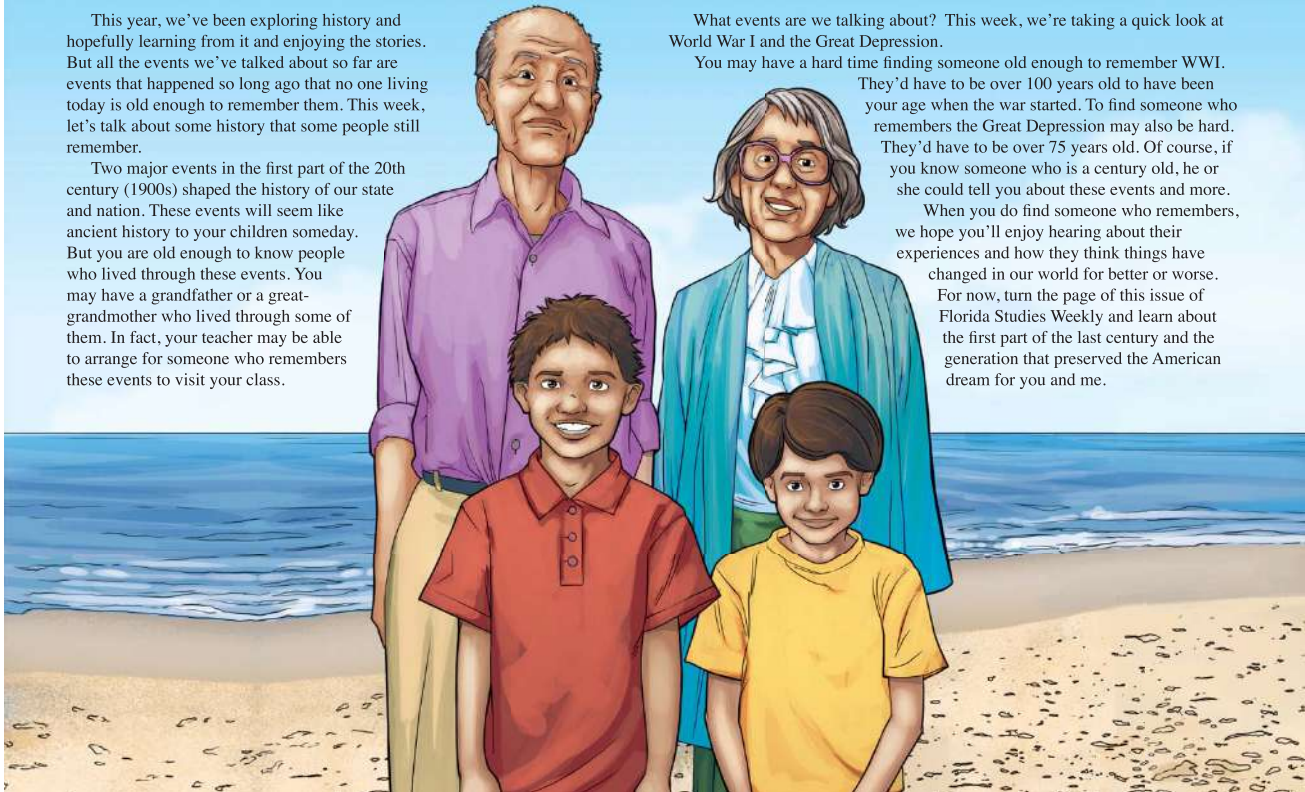
What events are we talking about? This week, we're taking a quick look at World War I and the Great Depression.

You may have a hard time finding someone old enough to remember WWI.

They'd have to be over 100 years old to have been your age when the war started. To find someone who remembers the Great Depression may also be hard. They'd have to be over 75 years old. Of course, if you know someone who is a century old, he or she could tell you about these events and more.

When you do find someone who remembers, we hope you'll enjoy hearing about their experiences and how they think things have changed in our world for better or worse.

For now, turn the page of this issue of Florida Studies Weekly and learn about the first part of the last century and the generation that preserved the American dream for you and me.



Connections

The USS Florida



This week you are learning about World War I and the German's secret weapon, the U-boat submarine. How did you feel while reading about the U-boat and how dangerous it was? Do you want to know if the United States ever managed to match that cunning capability?

This is the story of not just any ship, but the ship named in honor of

Florida—the USS Florida. It's kind of a tricky story though, because in our country's history there have been six ships named after our state. Let's look at them from oldest to newest.

In 1824, the Florida was a sloop, a big three-masted ship with sails and cannons for patrolling pirate-infested waters.

In 1850, the USS Florida was a side-

wheel steamer that patrolled the southern coast of the United States, especially Florida.

In 1869, the USS Florida was a huge ship and an amazing example of steam technology.

In 1901, the Florida was a coastal ship. It was used to train midshipmen and perform other coastal duties as

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Florida Next Generation Sunshine State Standards: SS.4.A.1.1: Analyze primary and secondary resources to identify significant individuals and events throughout Florida history. SS.4.A.1.2: Synthesize information related to Florida history through print and electronic media. SS.4.A.4.1: Analyze primary and secondary resources to identify significant individuals and events throughout Florida history. SS.4.A.6.3: Describe the contributions of significant individuals to Florida. SS.4.A.7.1: Describe the causes and effects of the 1920's Florida land boom and bust. SS.4.A.7.2: Summarize challenges Floridians faced during the Great Depression. SS.4.A.9.1: Utilize timelines to sequence key events in Florida history. SS.4.C.2.2: Identify ways citizens work together to influence government and help solve community and state problems. SS.4.G.1.1: Identify physical features of Florida. SS.4.G.1.2: Locate and label cultural features on a Florida map. SS.4.G.1.4: Interpret political and physical maps using map elements (title, compass rose, cardinal directions, intermediate directions, symbols, legend, scale, longitude, latitude). SS.4.FL.6.1: Explain that risk is the chance of loss or harm. SS.4.FL.6.2: Explain that risk from accidents and unexpected events is an unavoidable part of daily life. SS.4.FL.6.3: Describe ways that individuals can either choose to accept risk or take steps to protect themselves by avoiding or reducing risk.



World War I and the Great Depression

World War I

The beginning of the 20th century was an exciting time for our state and our nation. Florida farms and factories were growing, and new inventions were springing up everywhere. The potential of our state looked endless. People were moving here from all over because of the climate and all the opportunities. Life looked good to Floridians, but then something happened that changed the world.

In 1914, a war started in Europe that would change the lives of people in Florida, half a world away. At first, this war was fought between Britain, Russia and some other smaller nations (called the Allied Powers) and Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire (called the Central Powers). The United States tried to stay out of the war, but eventually we joined the Allied Powers.

The German navy had come up with a new and dangerous weapon. When American ships sailed in the Atlantic Ocean, German U-boats, special boats that could travel underwater, would sometimes sneak up on them and attack. Some Americans were even killed in U-boat attacks. U-boats are what we now call submarines. Because the Germans refused to stop attacking American ships with their new weapon, President Woodrow Wilson decided to declare war on Germany. The United States joined the Allied Powers and became part of what was

then called the Great War. We now know this war as World War I.

Floridians helped to win the war in many ways. In 1917, the United States sent troops to help fight the Central Powers in Europe. Over 42,000 of those soldiers were from Florida. Almost 1,300 Floridians were killed in action. Floridians at home helped by raising food to be sent to the Allied forces in Europe. Many Army bases were set up in Florida to train soldiers. The military liked Florida because they could train soldiers all year without worrying about snow and cold weather. The Allied Powers won the war in 1918.

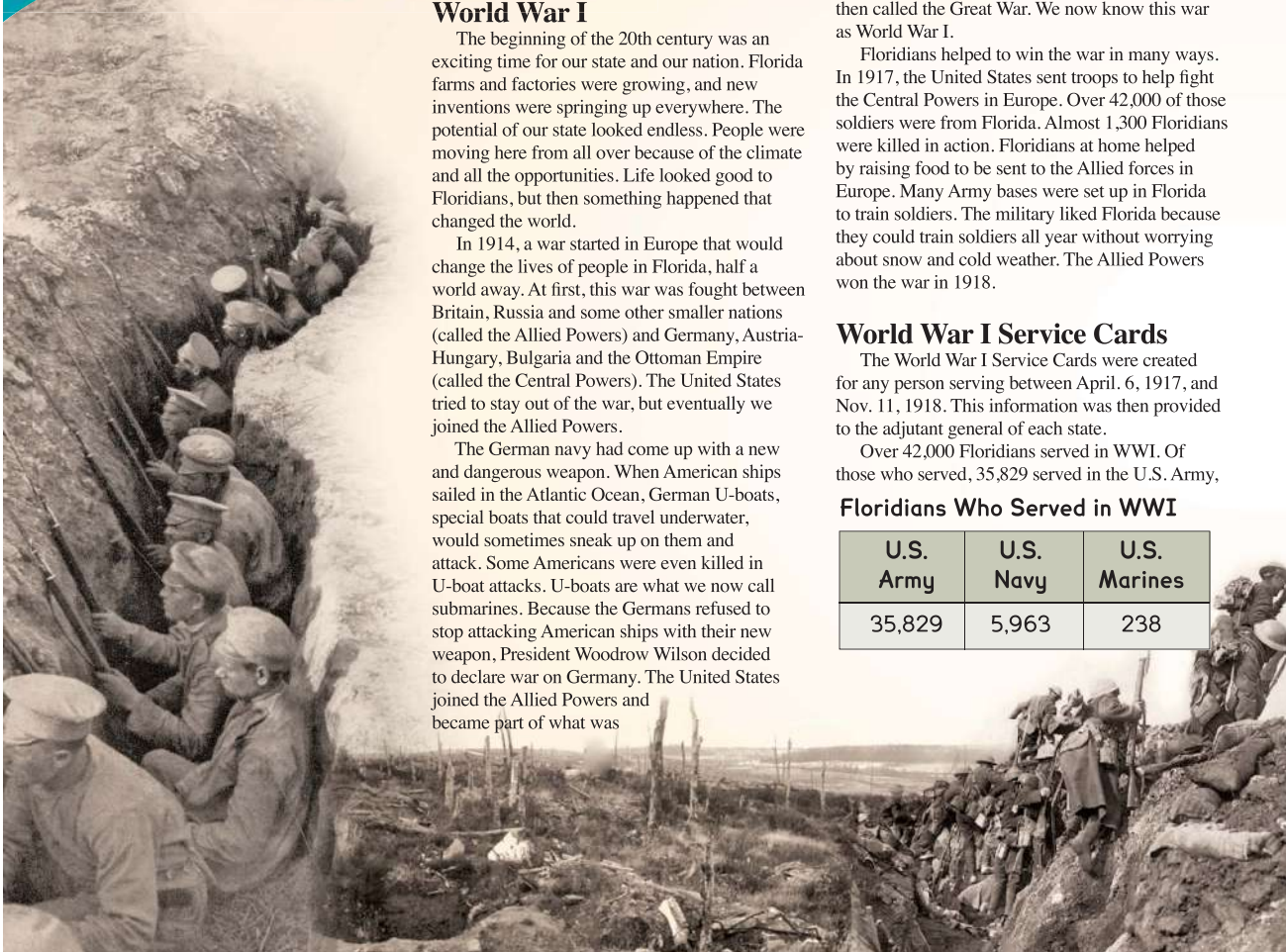
World War I Service Cards

The World War I Service Cards were created for any person serving between April, 6, 1917, and Nov. 11, 1918. This information was then provided to the adjutant general of each state.

Over 42,000 Floridians served in WWI. Of those who served, 35,829 served in the U.S. Army,

Floridians Who Served in WWI

U.S. Army	U.S. Navy	U.S. Marines
35,829	5,963	238



Marjory Stoneman Douglas

Here's one woman who proves that when it comes to doing amazing things, age is no obstacle. Marjory Stoneman Douglas was born in 1890 and died in 1998. Can you put on your math thinking cap and figure out how old she was? You got it: 108 terrific years old! How does a person use that much time? Well, if you're Douglas, you spend it fighting for something you care about. Early in her life, she spoke before Florida's legislature trying to get them to give women the right to vote. But Douglas is best known for her support of another important cause: Florida's beautiful wildlife. More and more people and businesses in Florida can be a great thing, but business brings pollution and less land for wildlife. Unfortunately, people aren't always careful with the land that's left. Douglas believed that sometimes wildlife just can't make it on its own and sometimes needs the help of others to protect and preserve it. Those are big ideas from a great Florida woman!

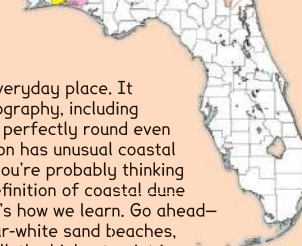
Douglas wrote a book titled "The River of Grass" that became a classic. She was inducted (made a member of) into the Women's Hall of Fame in 1986. She was awarded the Presidential Medal of Honor by President Clinton in 1993. Her efforts brought permanent changes that will preserve Florida wildlife for generations to come.

American Character



Walton and Okaloosa Counties

Florida Counties



Walton County: This is not your everyday place. It has some super-interesting geography, including Lake DeFuniak, which is almost perfectly round even though it's a natural lake. Walton has unusual coastal dune lakes, as well. Right now you're probably thinking that you need to look up the definition of coastal dune lake. That's good, because that's how we learn. Go ahead—we'll wait! This county has sugar-white sand beaches, too. And don't forget Britton Hill, the highest point in the state at 345 feet above sea level. The county seat is DeFuniak Springs.

Okaloosa County: Crestview is the county seat, but the biggest city is Fort Walton Beach. Valparaiso is home to the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida. They have all kinds of events, including Medieval history re-enactments, long-leaf pine needle basket weaving and watermelon eating contests. Head over to Eglin Air Force Base to see the historic military buildings that have been around since World War II. Eglin also contains more than 3,000 archaeological sites, some dating from the late Stone Age. And you thought it was just an Air Force Base!



5,963 served in the Navy and Coast Guard, and 238 served in the U.S. Marine Corps.

An interesting fact is that the Navy and the Marine Corps did not accept African Americans as enlistees or officers, but the U.S. Army had 13,024 African American enlistees and seven African American officers. American Indians were listed as white, so there is no available information on how many were enlisted.

The U.S. Army and Navy had women serve as nurses, but gender was not indicated on the service card. There is no record of any women serving in the Marines from Florida during WWI.

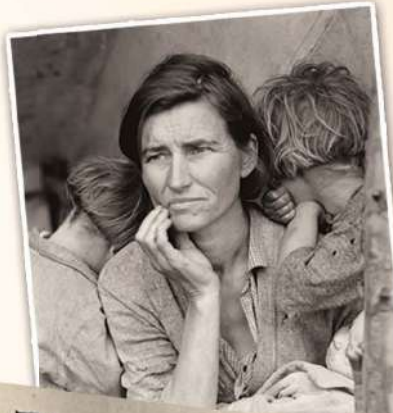
The Great Depression

After World War I ended, life was exciting and good here in Florida. Most people had jobs and could afford to buy many of the new gadgets that were being invented. Many people bought their first automobiles in the 1920s, and people began to travel as never before. People filled their homes with new gadgets, and women were given the right to vote. It was an exciting time to be alive. This period is known as the Roaring '20s. For Florida, the '20s only roared until about 1926. Then the banks ran out of money to loan, and investors got scared. To make things even worse, Florida was hit by terrible hurricanes in 1926 and 1928. Trouble was here to stay for a long time.

Then suddenly, things changed for all Americans with the stock market crash of 1929. Many people had hoped to make money in the stock market and had bought stock in many companies. When the prices of the stock dropped, people lost money, and soon many businesses and banks throughout the country

closed their doors. People lost their jobs and had no money to pay rent, buy food or provide for their families. Many people had to stand in soup lines, or long lines where they could receive free food.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt came up with some new programs meant to help those who were out of work. He called his plan the New Deal, and it helped those who were unemployed by giving them jobs doing things that the government needed done anyway. The New Deal gave people jobs repairing and building roads; building government buildings such as post offices, city halls, courthouses and schools; and planting trees and building dams. These jobs helped those who were out of work support their families and got them back on their feet.



TIMELINE

World War I is fought, 1914-1918



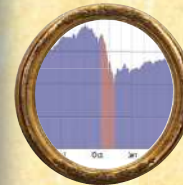
Major hurricanes hit Florida, 1926-1928



Florida's Great Depression 1926-1933 (State Archives of Florida/Rothstein)



Stock market crash, 1929



President Roosevelt introduces his New Deal, 1933



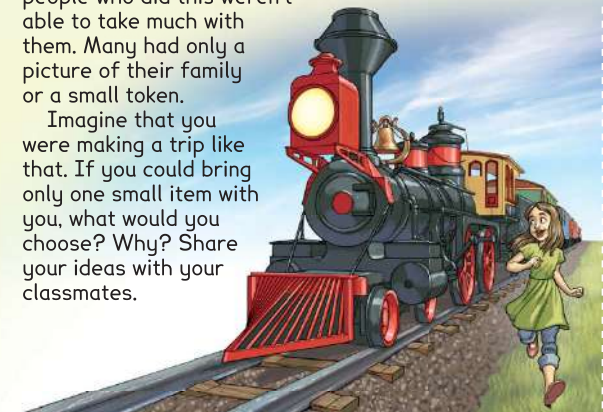
What would you take?



The Great Depression was a difficult time for many people. People all over the country lost their jobs, and banks ran out of money. Many families had to sell almost everything they had in order to pay rent and buy food. A lot of people simply left their homes to look for work in other places.

People who left often rode on freight trains. That often meant jumping onto a train car while it was still moving. It was dangerous and illegal, but it was one of the few ways people had to go somewhere new. The people who did this weren't able to take much with them. Many had only a picture of their family or a small token.

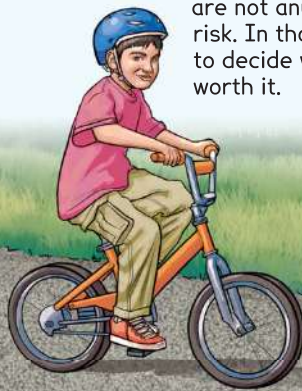
Imagine that you were making a trip like that. If you could bring only one small item with you, what would you choose? Why? Share your ideas with your classmates.



Taking Risks Financial Literacy

A risk is the chance of getting hurt or losing something. Risks are a part of life. Thankfully, there are usually ways to reduce the risks we face. Riding a bike is usually safe, but there is always a chance that someone may fall and get hurt. That person can reduce the risk by wearing a helmet and kneepads.

People can also take risks with their money. Businessmen and businesswomen will sometimes risk money to help start a new store. If that store fails, the money is lost. Sometimes there are not any ways to reduce the risk. In those cases, we just have to decide whether or not the risk is worth it.



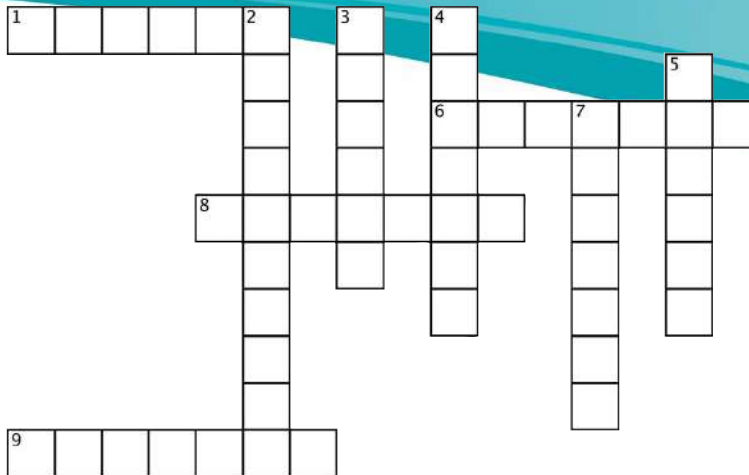
Name _____

ACROSS

1. side joined by the U.S. in World War I: _____ Powers
6. President Roosevelt's plan to help people out of work
8. another word for the 1900s: 20th _____
9. _____ '20s

DOWN

2. this started with the stock market crash of 1929: Great _____
3. name for submarines in World War I
4. side Germany was on in World War I: _____ Powers
5. county where you'll find an almost perfectly round lake: _____ County
7. author of "The River of Grass": Marjory Stoneman _____



As you read this week's lesson, circle or highlight all proper nouns with any color pen or highlighter. This will help you find some of the crossword answers and get ready for this week's test.

Be Creative!

This week, you read about taking risks. The soldiers who fought in World War I had to take risks during battles. During the Great Depression, people took risks with how to spend their money. Risks can be big or small. Think about at least one risk that you might face in your life. Describe that risk, and then come up with a plan for how you will do your best to stay safe. Try to come up with a creative way to reduce that risk as much as you can!

Citizenship

During World War I, many of the people involved showed citizenship. When have you shown citizenship at home, in school or in your community? Before you begin to write, think about a time you have shown citizenship. Now write to tell about a time you have shown citizenship.

Let's Write

If you'd like to make any editorial comments about our paper, please write to us at feedback@studiesweekly.com.

Use any color to circle or highlight five words in this week's magazine that have a prefix or suffix. On a piece of paper, write the words and the meaning of the prefixes or suffixes. (LAFS.4.RF.3.3)



The USS Florida

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a part of the Coastal Squadron.
 In 1911, the USS Florida was a giant battleship. It had huge guns, was fast and served during WWI, protecting other ships from German U-boats.
 In 1983, the USS Florida became, and still is, one of the most feared nuclear submarines on the planet. It carries nuclear missiles that can be fired from anywhere—even underwater—and lots of other technology that puts those old rusty U-boats to shame.
 Remember as you read: For more than a hundred years, the pride of the U.S. Navy has had Florida painted on its side.

- Think & Review*
1. This week you learned about two major events that shaped the history of our state and our nation. Write a one-sentence description of each of these events.
 2. Explain how these two major events affected the United States.
 3. How was Florida impacted by World War I?
 4. Who was Marjory Stoneman Douglas? Describe her achievements and how she represents some character traits of a good citizen.