

Transportation and Industry Change Wisconsin

Activity 9.1: New Industries and Old

Teacher Materials

Preparation/Organization The only materials needed for this activity will be copies of the student pages. The activity can be done with the whole class, in small groups, or as individual students.

Procedure

1. Hand out copies of Student Pages 1–2. Then direct students to page 176 of their textbook, *Wisconsin: Our State, Our Story*. Remind them that the two charts on this page show the most important Wisconsin industries during two different years, forty years apart.
2. Give students time to study the lists. Make sure students understand how to recognize how a particular industry changed in importance from 1880 to 1920 and how one industry might have supplanted another in terms of importance.
3. Then have a volunteer read aloud the first question on the student pages. Work with students to come up with the answers, helping them see the following industries were no longer as important in 1920: liquors and beer; clothing manufacturing; carriages, wagons, and materials; wooden boxes and doors; cigars and cigarettes; barrel making; saddles and harnesses. Have students speculate about why these industry changes might have happened. (For example: the arrival of Prohibition meant the end of the production of liquor and beer; the rise of the automobile meant the end of carriages and wagons; etc.)
4. Have students continue on their own, answering the remaining questions.
5. When they have finished, have students compare their responses, explaining their reasoning for all of their answers.

Answers

1. Liquors and beer; clothing manufacturing; carriages, wagons, and materials; wooden boxes and doors; cigars and cigarettes; barrel making; saddles and harnesses.
2. Possible answer: Liquors and beer went out with Prohibition; clothing probably was manufactured closer to where products like cotton were grown; carriages and wagons became less common with the rise of the automobile; wooden boxes and doors were probably replaced with metal ones; the manufacture of cigars and cigarettes probably become more centralized in the tobacco-growing states; wooden barrels were probably replaced with more modern containers; saddles and harnesses became less needed as cars and trucks replaced horses for work and transportation.
3. Cars, trucks, tractors; engines and waterwheels; ship and boatbuilding; automobile-related industries; candy manufacturing; copper, tin, and sheet metal products; knit material manufacturing; electrical machinery manufacturing.
4. Possible answer: Many of the industries came about because of new technologies, such as the car engine and electricity.
5. Possible answer: Because of the rise of the dairy industry, farmers who had once grown wheat or vegetables switched to dairy products; as the metal industry became more powerful, shops and factories developed and towns and cities grew larger; the auto industry required large factories, so communities grew as people moved from farms and small towns to the large communities where factories were located.
6. Answers will vary.

Name _____ Date _____

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Use the charts on page 176 of *Wisconsin: Our State, Our Story* to answer these questions.

1. Which industries among the top 20 in 1880 were no longer among the top 20 in 1920?

2. Why do you think those industries were no longer as important? _____

3. What industries among the top 20 in 1920 were not among the top 20 in 1880? _____

Name _____ Date _____

4. Why do you think that there were many new industries on the 1920 list that were not on the 1880 list?

5. How do you think the top 3 industries in 1920 changed life in Wisconsin?

6. Imagine that you lived in the year 1920. In which industry would you want to work? Explain.
