

The New Deal

*The Great Depression and
World War II (1929–1945)*



The New Deal

The Second New Deal

Consequences

Thematic Icons



Economics and business



Geography and environment



Historical concepts and questions



Politics, government and citizenship



Society and culture



War, diplomacy and foreign policy

Icons: For more detailed instructions, see the *User Guide*



Flash activity (these activities are not editable)



Teacher notes included in the Notes page



By the end of this section, you will be able to answer the following key questions about the New Deal:

- What was the New Deal?
- What were some major New Deal programs?
- What were some criticisms of the New Deal?



Looking back timeline



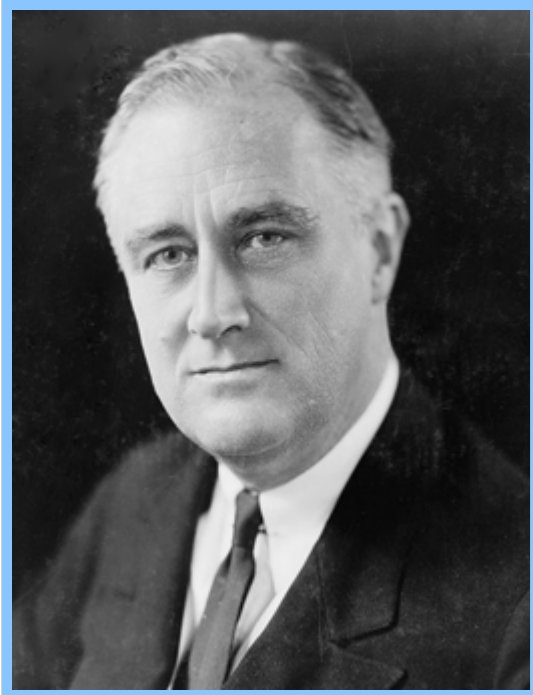
Use this timeline to recap key historical events and contextualize the New Deal. Either press on a date, or drag the pointer along the timeline to read about what happened in each year.
Press **start** to begin.

start





By the election of 1932, people were ready for a change.



The Democrats nominated reformer and New York governor **Franklin Delano Roosevelt**, popularly known as FDR. The Republicans nominated Hoover.

FDR's confidence and friendliness appealed to many, as did the promise of new policies. In November, he defeated Hoover by nearly 7 million votes.



During his campaign, FDR had promised “a new deal for the American people.”

As he waited for his inauguration, Roosevelt gathered a team of advisers known as the “**Brain Trust**” to develop new policies they hoped would pull the country out of depression.



Together, these policies were known as the **New Deal**.





Bank holiday



The three main goals of the New Deal were to provide relief for the poor, stimulate economic recovery and reform the financial system.

The day after FDR took office, Congress passed the Emergency Banking Act, which closed the nation's banks to prevent further withdrawals.

During the **bank holiday**, the Treasury Department reviewed the banks and allowed stable ones to reopen.

FDR also moved to legalize alcohol in the United States. By 1934, the **Twenty-first Amendment** had been ratified, ending Prohibition.

How might these changes help the economy?



The Hundred Days

FDR then launched the **Hundred Days**, a period of intense political activity lasting from March 9 to June 16, 1933.

During this time, the government enacted legislation that massively expanded its power to regulate the economy.

On March 12, FDR issued a public radio address to explain the financial situation. Throughout his presidency, these “**fireside chats**” assured Americans that Roosevelt understood their concerns.





New Deal programs



The New Deal legislation passed during the Hundred Days created many new government agencies. Press on the tabs of each folder to learn more about these early New Deal programs.

Press **start** to begin.

start





By the end of the Hundred Days, millions of Americans had already benefitted from New Deal programs and faith in the nation's future was slowly being restored. However, the Depression showed no signs of ending, and many were unhappy with FDR's policies.

Press **start** to learn more.

start





Read the following opinions about the New Deal and discuss to what extent you agree or disagree with them. When you have decided, drag the marker to the appropriate place on the slider scale.

Press **start** to begin.

start

