

Topic Choice Sheet: Heritage Play

NON-DATE SPECIFIC EVENTS:

- 7 Logging
- 8 Dairy Farming
- 9 Corn Crops
- 10 Potato Crops
- 11 Hydro-Electric Dams
- 12 Textile Mills
- 13 Paper Mills
- 14 Railroad
- 15 Founding of Certain Towns

DATE SPECIFIC EVENTS:

1724

- Father Sebastian Rasles, a French Jesuit is killed by Massachusetts milita at an Indian village at Norridgewock (Madison)

1754–1763

- Maine Indians forced north to Canada or into eastern Maine during French and Indian (Seven Years') War

1783

- Massachusetts (including Maine) abolishes slavery

1847

- Irish immigrants begin arriving in Maine in large numbers, driven out of their home country by the Irish potato famine. They work in industry and construction of roads and canals in a number of Maine communities

1853

- Grand Trunk Railway is built, connecting Maine to the St. Lawrence River, Montreal, and the Canadian Maritimes, and making Portland the winter port for Canadian trade

1860s

- A wave of French-Canadian immigration into Maine begins, spawned by industrial work opportunities in many Maine cities

1924

- Mirroring a national trend, membership in the Ku Klux Klan rises in Maine. The Klan opposed increased immigration and protested the presence of ethnic immigrants, including those of the Roman Catholic faith in Maine

1929

- Great Depression begins, leading to farm losses, closure of some mills and factories, reduced incomes for many, and some bank closures in the state

1954

- Maine's two recognized Indian tribes (Passamaquoddy and Penobscot) get the right to vote in federal elections, otherwise granted to men with the adoption of the Constitution in 1789 and to women in 1920. Maine is the last state to allow recognized tribes to vote.

1976

- The nation's final log drive is held on the Kennebec River. Increased dams, hydroelectric power and recreational use all competed for space on Maine's waterways, and environmental damage from the drives led to a 1971 law prohibiting log drives on Maine rivers after 1976

1997

- Maine Yankee nuclear power plant in Wiscasset, which opened in 1972, closes due to safety concerns and lack of economic viability

PEOPLE:

[Joshua L. Chamberlain](#) (1828 - 1914) Civil War general, governor of Maine, president of Bowdoin College. Born in Brewer, ME

[Edwin Arlington Robinson](#) (1869 - 1935) Poet; Won 3 Pulitzer Prizes for his work in poetry. Born in Tide

[Dorothea Dix](#) (1802 - 1887)
Humanitarian and social reformer;
Created the first generation of
mental asylums. Born in Hampden,
ME

[Hannibal Hamlin](#) (1809 - 1891) U.S.
Vice-President during Abraham
Lincoln's first term, and was a
senator and a representative from
Maine. Born in Paris, ME

[Stephen King](#) (1947 -) Writer
whose novels often are made into
motion pictures. Some works include
The Shining, Salem's Lot, Carrie, Pet
Sematary, and Midnight Shift. Born
in Portland, ME

[Henry Wadsworth Longfellow](#)
(1807 - 1882) Considered the most
influential poet of his day with
famous works such as "The
Courtship of Miles Standish" and
"Evangeline". Born in Portland, ME

Head, ME

[Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller](#) (1908
- 1979) Former New York governor
and vice-president of the United
States; He was also a
philanthropist and businessman.
Born in Bar Harbor, ME

[Margaret Chase Smith](#) (1897 -
1995) The first woman to be
elected to both houses of
Congress. Born in Skowhegan, ME

[Percy Lebaron Spencer](#) (1894 -
1970) American engineer and well-
known inventor; Most famous for
his invention of the microwave
oven. Born in Howland, ME

***** If you have any other topic ideas that you would like to use, please run them by me first! *****