Work That Lasted

How New Deal projects helped Alabama families and communities

SS24.5.8b "Identify and describe New Deal projects that helped bring relief to Alabama."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the three New Deal efforts 1, 2, and 3 as you read. Underline how each effort gave people jobs or pay, and circle one lasting benefit of each.

Building Relief in Alabama

1. In 1933, many Alabama families needed work because the Great Depression had closed businesses and farms brought in little money. The federal New Deal paid people to build useful things. One project was Wheeler Dam on the Tennessee River. Workers built it for the Tennessee Valley Authority, or TVA. Their pay helped families buy food, while the dam helped supply electricity and made river travel easier.

2. At Cheaha State Park, crews in the Civilian Conservation Corps, or CCC, built stone cabins and trails. The CCC hired young men who needed jobs. They received pay, and much of their pay went home to their families. Visitors could use the trails and cabins long after the crews finished. This project brought relief through jobs while creating a place for people to enjoy Alabama's outdoors.

3. Another New Deal agency, the Works Progress Administration, or WPA, paid workers across Alabama to build and improve public schools and roads. A worker repairing a road earned money for a household, and the safer road helped neighbors travel. A new or improved school gave children a better place to learn. These projects did more than provide short-term jobs. They left communities with buildings and routes they could keep using.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the Wheeler Dam project help families during the Great Depression, and what did the dam help people do afterward?

2. How did the CCC's work at Cheaha State Park help both workers' families and later visitors?

3. Identify a WPA project that helped Alabama children. How did it bring relief to workers and help children?

4. Which WPA project helped people get from place to place? Describe its immediate and lasting benefits.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence label for an Alabama history exhibit comparing two different projects from the passage. Name both projects, describe how each brought relief during the Depression, and explain how their lasting benefits differed.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Number the three New Deal efforts 1, 2, and 3 as you read. Underline how each effort gave people jobs or pay, and circle one lasting benefit of each. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the Wheeler Dam project help families during the Great Depression, and what did the dam help people do afterward?	**Building the dam gave workers pay to help their families buy food. The dam helped supply electricity and made river travel easier.**
2	How did the CCC's work at Cheaha State Park help both workers' families and later visitors?	**CCC workers earned pay, much of which went to their families. Visitors could later use the cabins and trails.**
3	Identify a WPA project that helped Alabama children. How did it bring relief to workers and help children?	**The WPA built and improved public schools. Workers earned pay, and children gained better places to learn.**
4	Which WPA project helped people get from place to place? Describe its immediate and lasting benefits.	**The WPA built and improved roads. Workers earned money right away, and neighbors could keep using the improved roads.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Wheeler Dam and Cheaha State Park were two New Deal projects in Alabama. Workers earned pay building Wheeler Dam, which helped their families buy food. Young men in the CCC earned pay at Cheaha, and much of it went to their families. The dam helped supply electricity and made river travel easier, while Cheaha's cabins and trails gave visitors a place to enjoy the outdoors.

Accept any two distinct projects or types of work named in the passage. Responses should connect each to jobs or pay during the Depression and accurately distinguish their lasting benefits.