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Unit Narrative

In this unit, students explore how the Industrial Revolution transformed life in the United States between the early 1800s and mid-1800s. They examine the rise of industrialization in the North, the growth of cities through urbanization, and the technological innovations that revolutionized manufacturing, communication, and transportation. Students analyze the economic, geographic, and social differences between the North and South, paying special attention to how industrialization fueled sectionalism and laid the groundwork for growing tensions between regions.

The unit also focuses on the workers who powered this transformation—immigrants, women, and children. Students learn about the harsh conditions many faced in factories, mills, and mines, as well as the rise of labor unions and early reform movements. Through readings, primary sources, images, and maps, students connect the experiences of industrial workers to broader patterns of urbanization, immigration, and reform.

Finally, students study the Agricultural Revolution and life in the South, examining the role of Eli Whitney’s cotton gin, the expansion of the “Cotton Kingdom,” and the spread of slavery into the Deep South. They consider the perspectives of enslaved people and their acts of resistance, while also analyzing how the South’s agricultural economy became increasingly dependent on both slavery and trade with the industrial North. By the end of the unit, students will understand how industrial and agricultural revolutions reshaped American society, intensified sectional divisions, and set the stage for conflicts that would culminate in the Civil War.

CONTENT STANDARDS -

Below are the standards **taught** and **assessed** in this unit.

Industrialization		Connected Knowledge and Skills: 8.5 8.12, 8.14, 8.23, 8.27, 8.28
8.13 Economics. The student understands how various economic forces resulted in the Industrial Revolution in the 19 th century		
STAAR	Readiness Standards	Supporting Standards
5-8 Items	<p>8.10B: compare places and regions of the United States in terms of physical and human characteristics.</p> <p>8.10C: analyze the effects of physical and human geographic factors such as weather, landforms, waterways, transportation, and communication on major historical events in the United States.</p> <p>8.11A: analyze how physical characteristics of the environment influenced population distribution, settlement patterns, and economic activities in the United States.</p> <p>8.12B: explain reasons for...the spread of slavery.</p> <p>8.12C: analyze the causes and effects of economic differences among different regions of the United States at selected times.</p> <p>8.13B: identify the economic factors that brought about rapid industrialization and urbanization.</p> <p>8.23A: identify racial, ethnic, and religious groups that settled in the United States and explain their reasons for immigration.</p> <p>8.27A: explain the effects of technological and scientific innovations such as the steamboat, the cotton gin, the telegraph, and interchangeable parts.</p>	<p>8.5D: explain the...effects of the War of 1812.</p> <p>8.10A: locate places and regions directly related to major eras and turning points in the United States during the ... 19th centuries</p> <p>8.11B: describe the positive and negative consequences of human modification of the physical environment of the United States</p> <p>8.12A: identify economic differences among different regions of the United States</p> <p>8.13A: analyze the economic effects of the War of 1812</p> <p>8.14A: explain why a free enterprise system of economics developed in the new nation, including minimal government regulation, taxation, and property rights</p> <p>8.14B: describe the characteristics and the benefits of the U.S. free enterprise system through 1877</p> <p>8.23B: explain how urbanization contributed to conflicts resulting from differences in religion, social class, and political beliefs</p> <p>8.23D: analyze the contributions of people of various racial, ethnic, and religious groups to our national identity</p> <p>8.23E: identify the political, social, and economic contributions of women to American society</p> <p>8.27B: analyze how technological innovations changed the way goods were manufactured and distributed, nationally and internationally</p> <p>8.27C: analyze how technological innovations brought about economic growth such as the development of the factory system and the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad</p> <p>8.28A: compare the effects of scientific discoveries and technological innovations that have influenced daily life in different periods in U.S. history</p> <p>8.28B: identify examples of how industrialization changed life in the United States</p>

UNDERSTANDINGS, QUESTIONS

Unit 7 At-A-Glance (Daily Lesson View)	
Lesson 01	Introduction to Industrialization
Lesson 02	Industrialization – Causes and Effects
Lesson 03	Innovations of the 19 th Century
Lesson 04	The Erie Canal
Lesson 05	Workers in the Industrial Revolution
Lesson 06	Immigration and Nativism
Lesson 07	Agricultural Revolution and Increasing Sectionalism
STAAR SUCCESS DAYS – Lesson 8	
Planning Option – DBQ: Effects of the Industrial Revolution	

Enduring Understanding	Vocabulary of the Topic
<p>Industrialization and urbanization led to the growth of the U.S. economy and sweeping social changes that made America more just.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Industrialization ✓ Urbanization ✓ Labor ✓ Canal ✓ Innovation ✓ Powered Loom ✓ Steamboat ✓ Cotton Gin ✓ Interchangeable Parts ✓ Telegraph ✓ Revolution
Key Questions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the North change following the War of 1812? • How did innovations like the steamboat and the telegraph change trade in the US? • How did the south change as a result of the cotton gin? • Who were the laborers of the United States in the 1800s? How were they different from laborers of the past? • How did immigrants integrate into society in the 1800s? 	

