

# Educator Overview

## The Track to Change: How 20th Century America Shaped Thoroughbred Racing



<b>Audience</b>	Grade levels 9-12 ▾	Subject Social Studies ▾	Topic How changes in 20th century America impacted thoroughbred racing.
<b>Guiding Questions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. How did horse racing evolve in response to American cultural shifts?</li><li>2. How has horse racing helped Americans?</li><li>3. How did technological advancements influence horse racing?</li><li>4. Why are museums and Halls of Fame important?</li></ol>		
<b>Background Knowledge</b>	Students should have some working knowledge of 20 <sup>th</sup> century American history to provide useful context for this resource kit. Some background will be provided, but students should have a general idea of events in American history in the 20th century such as Prohibition, the Great Depression, and World War II. Pivotal and relevant events during these eras will be explored and explained in this resource kit, but a broad understanding is helpful.		
<b>Guiding Question #1 Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activity 1: <b>Social Reform in the 1900s</b> - This activity will explore the Prohibition era in America from 1900 to 1913. Students will see how anti-gambling laws, inspired by Prohibition and Temperance movements, impacted horse racing.</li><li>• Activity 5: <b>Breaking Down Barriers in the Sport of Kings</b> - After reading a document about the feminist movements of the 1960s, students will have the opportunity to annotate multiple newspaper articles about the entrance of female jockeys into the sport of thoroughbred racing.</li></ul>		
<b>Guiding Question #2 Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activity 2: <b>Providing Hope During the Great Depression</b> - Using a timeline of events, students will track the progression of the Great Depression in America while also following the life and career of Hall of Fame horse Seabiscuit to understand how the horse became a beacon of light for America.</li></ul>		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activity 3: <b>Supporting the War Effort on the Home Front</b> - In this activity, students will learn how American thoroughbred racing adapted and changed in response to America's entrance into World War II.</li></ul>
<b>Guiding Question #3 Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activity 6: <b>Milestones in Sports Broadcasting: From Radio to Television</b> - Utilizing a timeline, students will be able to trace the development of sports media coverage in the 1900s and see how thoroughbred racing adapted to the rapid changes in technology.</li></ul>
<b>Guiding Questions #4 Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activity 4: <b>Preservation and Celebration of History</b> - Students will be able to interact with the hotspots on this map of America to follow a trend of historical and cultural preservation during the 1950s.</li></ul>
<b>Other Notes</b>  (Supplies needed, independent vs. whole class engagement)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activity 7: <b>Racing Through Change: A Review</b> - This is an escape room activity that features a question pertaining to each activity.</li><li>• No supplies are needed.</li><li>• This is a resource kit that could be used as a whole kit, or individual activities.</li><li>• Activity 5: <b>Breaking Down Barriers in the Sport of Kings</b> can be done in small groups or pairs to encourage collaboration.</li><li>• All the activities in this resource kit can be done individually, in pairs, or as a class.</li></ul>