Resources

Below is a list of resources for the entire unit. Each resource is annotated with reference to the specific lesson for which it was used or would be an additional resource.

Books:

Lesson 5-10: Detailed exploded drawing of a steam driven generator and a windmill. Also good exploded drawing of a city and the entire infrastructure involved.

Lesson 5-10: Good coverage of mass production, the automobile and technology in farming.

Lesson 5-10: Good simple explanations and pictures of the windmill, automobile and steam engine.

Lesson 6: Detailed coverage of the development of rail travel and its impact on cities.

Lesson 5-10: Good explanation of electricity and its impact

Lesson 5-10: Excellent discussion of the development of railroads

Lesson 5-10: Many pictures of the local area 1860-1968 give an idea of cities and the role trains and electric trolleys played in our area and why they were replaced.

Lesson 5-10: Good explanations of windmills, steam engines, and electricity.


Lesson 5-10: Simple explanations of telephones, radios and many other labor saving devices developed in the beginning of the 20th century.

There are many other books about inventions, inventors, and technology in children’s libraries. The above were some of the clearest and most suitable for middle school children.

**Web Links and Sites:**

**Association of American Railroads**
Offers free resources to teachers of grades K-12, including books, videos, CD-ROMs, maps, safety brochures, activity sheets, and supplies. Select “Teacher Resources.” [http://www.railfanclub.org](http://www.railfanclub.org)

**Chicago History Organization**
Extensive on line information and photographs of the development of the city over time. [Chicago Historical Society](http://www.railfanclub.org)

**Digital History Text: University of Houston**
Good basic US History text with many interesting links to museum sites for individual cities, advertising collections and primary sources. A good first step to research for teachers and students. [http://digitalhistory.uh.edu/](http://digitalhistory.uh.edu/)

**Entrepreneurs and American Economic Growth**
Dr. Poole’s Economics course website (UC San Diego) provides excellent graphs and biographical information on Rockefeller, Carnegie and Vanderbilt.

**Henry Ford**
Bibliography on Henry Ford [http://www.hfmgv.org/education/smartfun/class/modelt/resources.html](http://www.hfmgv.org/education/smartfun/class/modelt/resources.html)

**History Matters: The U.S. Survey Course on the Web**
Links and information on all units’ materials and their connection to your community. Helpful information on teaching with documents in the “Making Sense of Evidence” section. [http://www.historymatters.gmu.edu](http://www.historymatters.gmu.edu)

**Library of Congress**
Many primary sources from the period. Photographs and maps are particularly useful as are the advertising exhibitions. Of particular interest to students are the Edison films in the Early Films exhibition. There are clips of Chicago showing the stock yards, Los Angeles harbor, and many of New York at the turn of the century. The film clip of immigrants arriving at Ellis Island is of particular use. [http://www.memory.loc.gov](http://www.memory.loc.gov)

**Money and Inflation**
Students often want to know about the relative cost of things and the value of the wages received by factory workers. The following site is a simple value calculator for students. [The Inflation Calculator](http://www.inflationcalculator.com)
National Archives
Interesting source of photos, documents and other primary sources. Takes a lot of digging. Very helpful archivists. One of my personal favorites is application number 1 for a homestead site which is an excellent resources for the unit preceding this unit on westward expansion. http://arcweb.archives.gov/arc/basic_search

National Museum of American History
Has an extensive of collection of artifacts from the late 1800’s which help give students a picture of life at the turn of the century in the US. Of particular interest to touring classes would be the display on Electricity Lighting: A Revolution which also has an interactive website that would be very good for class who cannot visit the museum.

A new exhibit hall entitled “America on the Move” gives a wonderful idea of the changes in cities that transportation improvements, and the automobile caused in the United States. There is an excellent on-line exhibition for a class web quest if the students cannot actually visit the museum NMAH: America on the Move

Public Broadcasting System
The PBS website has so many resources for all of US history. This link is to the American Experience Homepage which has excellent information on Andrew Carnegie and the development of “Big Business” in America. http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/

Train Resources
Extensive information, including listings of railroad resources all over the United States. For information on railroads in your community, look under “Resources” on the left-hand side. Click “Tourist Railroads/Museums” and then your state to find attractions in your area. Clicking on “Historical Societies” leads to an alphabetical state listing of nationwide railroad historical societies. These links will provide railroad information specific to your area. Contact organizations by phone for more information. http://www.trains.com

U.S. Department of Commerce
Click on your state in the map in the right margin. Contact a commerce organization, administration, or department in your area for more information on the role your state plays in the global community. http://www.commerce.gov

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Click on “About Communities” in the left margin to find maps, statistics, and information on housing in your community. Contact your state housing department for more information. http://www.hud.gov

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration National Highway System
Learn the difference between types of highways, including President Eisenhower’s interstate system. Scroll down and click on your state to view the different highways that run through or near your community. http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep10/nhs
U.S. Historical Census Data Browser
Using the census, find out how the population of your community changed throughout time. Compare different time periods by selecting different years in the left margin. Select “Total Population,” then your state, to find your county’s population.
http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/census

Movies:

Lyddie: Available on VHS. Details the difficulties of a young mill worker in Lowell, Massachusetts. This movie has much good information about conditions for workers in the factories. The movie is based on a book for young readers by Katherine Paterson

Far and Away: Popular film about a young Irish immigrant and his difficulties about 1887. Good re-enactment of the corruption and boss system in the urban centers. Hero also takes part in the Oklahoma land rush.