Learn About It

In this unit, your child will learn:

• how the Industrial Revolution and the Erie Canal affected the growth of towns in New York
• that disagreements over slavery and states’ rights divided the United States during the Civil War
• how immigrants helped build New York during the late 1800s

Here are some ways that you can help your child learn:

Talk About It

Chapter 5: Growth and Expansion

A Nation Divided Today, Americans enjoy many different ways of life across the nation. Discuss how differences of opinion about the southern and northern ways of life led to the Civil War.

Chapter 6: The Growth of Cities

Searching for a Better Life In the late 1800s and early 1900s, millions of immigrants came to New York through the immigration station on Ellis Island. Talk about how it might feel to start a new life in an unfamiliar city.

Make It

Community Change Chart Discuss with your child how places in a community change when a new store, road, or office building is built. Help your child make a two-column Community Change Chart. Title the first column Change and the second column Result. Then tour your community with your child and fill in the chart. Ask your child questions such as How does this change affect the number of people who work here? How does it affect the people who live here?

Read to Learn More About It

Freedom Train: The Story of Harriet Tubman, by Dorothy Sterling. Having escaped slavery on the Underground Railroad, Harriet Tubman risked her life over and over again to help other slaves to freedom.

Ellis Island, by R. Conrad Stein. Describes the history, closing, and restoration of the Ellis Island immigration center and details the experiences of the immigrants who came to Ellis Island at the turn of the twentieth century.


Technology

Check out www.eduplace.com/parents/hmss/ for more information.