



Smithsonian's History Explorer Podcast

Teacher Guide



The Bracero Project

with curator Stephen Velasquez

Podcast Link: http://amhistory.si.edu/thinkfinity/podcast/bracero_project.mp3

Pre-Listening Questions

- Why do you think the United States would start a guest labor program during World War 2?
- What do you think is the best way to document a piece of history like a guest worker program?
- If you could interview a guest laborer, what would you ask?

Discussion Questions

- What is the bracero program?
- What do you think daily life was like for a bracero?
- Why did President Roosevelt start the bracero program?
- Why do you think it's important to document the bracero program?

Related Resources—for continued instruction or resources for your students' research

National Museum of American History:

- The Bracero Archive
<http://braceroarchive.org/>
- Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program 1942-1964
<http://americanhistory.si.edu/bracero/introduction>

History Explorer:

- Short Handed Hoe
<http://historyexplorer.americanhistory.si.edu/resource/?key=744>
- A Nation of Immigrants: Latino Stories
<http://historyexplorer.americanhistory.si.edu/resource/?key=165>
The Life and Music of Celia Cruz
<http://historyexplorer.americanhistory.si.edu/resource/?key=225>

Thinkfinity:

- Celebrate Hispanic Heritage (from Scholastic)
<http://thinkfinity.org/bookmarks/21392>

Related Standards for U.S. History (National Center for History in the Schools)

- Era 8: The Great Depression and World War II (1929-1945)
 - Standard 3: The causes and course of World War II, the character of the war at home and abroad, and its reshaping of the U.S. role in world affairs

Related Standards for World History (National Center for History in the Schools)

- Era 8: A Half-Century of Crisis and Achievement (1900-1945)
 - Standard 4: The causes and global consequences of World War II

Have your students email their question, comments, and discoveries to thinkfinity@si.edu

Find this podcast and more at <http://americanhistory.si.edu/podcasts>



Name:

Date:

Period:

Topic:

Pre-Listening vocabulary—define these words:

Migrant Labor:

Guest Worker Program:

Legacy:

Pre-Listening Questions:

Why do you think the United States would start a guest labor program during World War 2?

What do you think is the best way to document a piece of history like a guest worker program?

If you could interview a guest laborer, what would you ask?

What questions do you have about the bracero program?

Listen to the podcast. Take notes and answer the questions.

What is the bracero program?

Why did President Roosevelt start the bracero program?

What do you think daily life was like for a bracero?

Why do you think it's important to document the bracero program?

What questions do you still have about the bracero program? How would you go about answer those questions?

Let us know at thinkfinity@si.edu

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