

The Jefferson Era

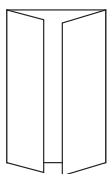
TOPIC SUMMARY

The Republicans took power with the election of Thomas Jefferson as the third president. Jefferson hoped to bridge the gap between the Republican and Federalist Parties. He also wanted to reduce the national debt and the power of the federal government. In the early 1800s, the Louisiana Purchase opened a vast area west of the Mississippi River to exploration and settlement, and Americans began moving into the area to settle and farm the land. The movement west created tensions with the Native Americans who were living there. Meanwhile, the United States struggled to remain neutral during a war between Britain and France. By 1812, the United States was at war with Britain.

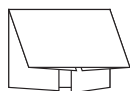
FOLDABLES
Study Organizer

Organizing Information This four-tab Foldable will help students learn about the events of the Jefferson Era.

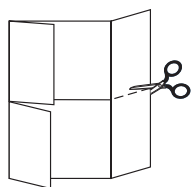
Step 1 Fold the sides of a piece of paper into the middle to make a shutter fold.



Step 2 Cut each tab at the midpoint to form four tabs.



Step 3 Label the tabs as shown.



Reading and Writing Take notes about each section under the appropriate head. Use your Foldable to help you write a summary for each section.

TOPIC ACTIVITY IDEAS

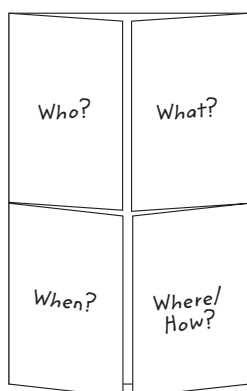
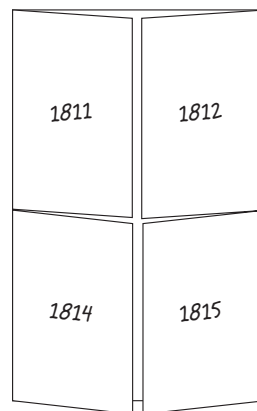
Inventing a Game

Have students create the Study Foldable above and label it as shown. Students should then list the main facts and other important details about each as they read their textbook and research.

Organize students into small groups to discuss the events of the Jefferson Era. Suggest that they create a trivia game with the information from their Foldables. Have them create a scoring system as well. Then have students switch groups to play their trivia game.

DETERMINING CAUSE AND EFFECT

Have students create a new Foldable with the dates as noted on the model to the right. Ask students to record under the appropriate tabs the major events that occurred during each year. Tell students to note the cause-and-effect relationship between events occurring before and after each year. Encourage students to use bright colored markers and pens as tools for organizing their information.



DESCRIBING

On the Foldable they have created, ask students to record Who?, What?, When?, and Where/How? as shown on the left. Ask students to use their text to record the names of important people and events. They should record when the events happened and where and how the events happened. Students can make several of these Foldables to reinforce what they learn about this period of history. Display the Foldables on a Jefferson Era bulletin board.

Student Study Tip

To improve reading retention, have students quiz themselves on material immediately after they read it. Each time students reach a new subject head, they should ask themselves what they learned in the previous subsection. This will ensure that they link the whole section and chapter together for a careful reading of the materials.