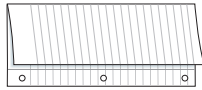# The Age of Reform

TOPIC SUMMARY

The Second Great Awakening in the early 1800s influenced many social reforms, including temperance, education, and women's rights. The spirit of reform also revitalized the antislavery movement and led to the birth of the Underground Railroad. American literature and painting reflected a style that indicated an interest in the history, landscape, and social issues of America.

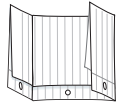**FOLDABLES**™
Study Organizer

Organizing Information Make this Foldable to organize what students learn about the reform movements of the 1800s.
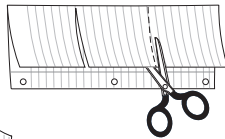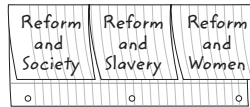
Step 1 Fold a sheet of paper in half lengthwise.

Step 2 Fold the paper into three equal sections.

Step 3 Cut the folds on the top flap.

Step 4 Label the tabs.

Reform and Society | Reform and Slavery | Reform and Women

Reading and Writing
Note how reformers addressed problems in society and about issues facing enslaved people and women.
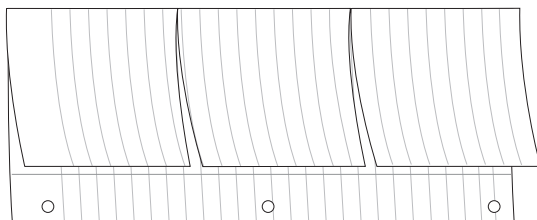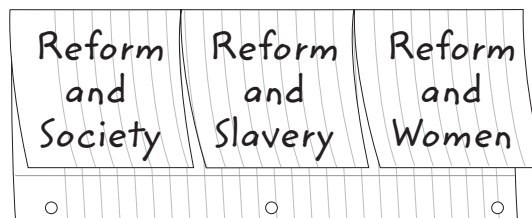
TOPIC ACTIVITY IDEAS

Time Line

Once students have created their Foldables activity above, ask them to choose an example of reform from the period that interests them and do research to find the most current information about it. For example, they might ask: What are the basic principles of public education today? Are children required to attend school? Students should incorporate all of their research into a large time line poster, showing the development of the reform over the years.

EXPLAINING

Ask students to create and label the Foldable as shown to the right. Ask students to explain, under each tab, how the reform movement of the 1800s affected each topic.

Reform and Society | Reform and Slavery | Reform and Women

IDENTIFYING

Have students create the Foldable, choose three influential African American abolitionists, and write one name on each tab. Students can use the Internet to find photographs of their choices to glue on the front of the tabs. Under each tab, have students record biographical information, quotes, and details about how each person contributed to the abolitionist movement.

Student Study Tip

Remind students that reform occurs when there are problems in society. To give students a better understanding of why change is often necessary, help them create a problem-solution chart. On this chart, they can list problems in one column and the reform that helped solve the problem in the opposite column.