

# Unit 09: The Spirit of Reform

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Social Studies 8**  
Time Period: **Quarter 3**  
Length: **10 Days**  
Status: **Published**

## Standards

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### 6.1 U.S. History: America in the World by the End of 8th Grade

6.1.8.CivicsHR.4.a: Examine sources from a variety of perspectives to describe efforts to reform education, women's rights, slavery, and other issues during the Antebellum period.

6.1.8.HistoryCC.4.b: Explain the growing resistance to slavery and New Jersey's role in the Underground Railroad.

6.1.8.CivicsHR.3.b: Evaluate the impact of the institution of slavery on the political and economic expansion of the United States.

### 6.3 Active Citizenship in the 21st Century by the End of 8th Grade

## Unit Summary

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This unit discusses the first women's rights conference-- the Seneca Falls Convention. At the Convention, activists wrote the Declaration of Women's Rights. Another action that was taken was the Temperance Movement, which was an attempt to eliminate the evils of alcohol. Other reformers paved the way for change in the areas of education, treatment of the mentally ill, religion, and abolition: Horace Mann led a movement to create mandatory public education in America. Reformers led the way to more modern treatment of the mentally ill. The Great Awakening was a religious revival movement. Transcendentalists brought art and culture to people who had not yet been previously exposed.

## Student Learning Objectives

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- Students will learn the influence of various individuals on social and political reform in the U.S.
- Students will learn the growth of social reform movements between 1820 and 1860.
- Students will learn the development of the abolitionist movement and its impact.
- Students will learn what the women's movement fought for and what the results were.
- Students will learn how the mentally ill were treated and the reform that led to change.

## Essential Questions

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- What sparked social reform in the mid 1800s?
- What was the effect of the abolitionist movement on the relationship between the North and the South?
- In what areas did women make progress in achieving equality?

## **Enduring Understandings**

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- Students will understand that the Great Awakening helped pave the way for social reform movements in the United States.
- Students will understand that the abolitionist movement deepened the divide between the North and the South.
- Students will understand that the women's movement helped women achieve progress in the areas of education, legal, and political rights.

## **Application**

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Students will be able to independently use their learning to..

- Conduct research and present information on a chosen reform movement.

## **Skills**

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Students will be skilled at:

- Analyzing the goals and achievements of each of the reform movements.
- Analyzing a variety of sources to research and record the important points of each reform movement.
- Organizing and presenting the "Who, What, When, Where, and Why" of their chosen reform movement.