

There were many New Deal projects put into place in hopes of providing relief, reform, and recovery to the American people during the Great Depression. Though there was an “alphabet soup” of programs, there are varying viewpoints on whether or not the New Deal actually worked and was useful or whether it was not really all that helpful and – possibly – useless.

In this project, you will determine your position on the New Deal and answer the question: USEFUL or USELESS?

Steps to Success:

1. Go to the New Deal Projects map (<https://livingnewdeal.org/map/>).
 - a. Find the New Deal projects listed in the local section and fill in the information. (Use your geography skills of the North Shore area to find the right red dots!)
 - b. Select at least four other red dots on the map and record the New Deal information discovered as well as its impact/your thoughts on the usefulness vs. uselessness; you are encouraged to explore a variety of regions/states.
2. Using the readings/resources provided about the New Deal, note the purpose/background of each New Deal program you came across on the map.
3. Return to the resources and select five other New Deal programs/actions that you did not encounter in your red dot selections; record them in the table, note their purpose, and mention whether you feel they are useful or useless.
4. Use your research as well as the information shared in class/homework to determine your position on the question of “useful or useless” and then create your product.
 - a. Create a Google Slides presentation with a minimum of five slides.
 - i. Slide one should be a title slide with a thesis statement clearly stating your position on the issue of “useful or useless”.
 - ii. On slides two, three, and four (and you can do more), highlight a New Deal program that you are using as evidence to support your position.
 1. Mention what the New Deal project/product/action was
 2. Include a picture of it/related to it
 3. Note the name of the New Deal program connected to it
 4. State if the impact was local, regional, or national
 5. Explain why it was useful or useless
 - iii. Your final slides should be a way to wrap up your argument; you choose how you would like to effectively do so.
 - b. Using Screencastify, record yourself explaining your argument.
 - i. Make sure you find a quiet space, have appropriate speed/volume, and sound professional/academic.

Requirements	Points
Thesis is clear, effective at stating the position, and properly formatted	/5
Each information slide includes the components mentioned in the directions, has accurate information, and logically explains the usefulness/uselessness	/30
Final slide provides an effective wrap-up	/5
Recording and speaking are of high-quality	/10
GPS = Practically perfect in every way (minus points for major errors)	
Comments:	
	/50

Use the map to find various locations with a direct link to the New Deal.

New Deal Product/ Project/Action	Year Created	Location (City & State)	New Deal Program Used	Info on the New Deal Program	Impact? Useful or Useless?
“Scenes of Industry” murals @ Highland Park High School	1934	Highland Park, IL	Public Works of Art Project (PWAP)	A program to employ artists during the Great Depression	
Skokie Lagoons					
Mural @ New Trier High School					
Wallace Bowl @ Gillson Park					
Fort Sheridan Improvements					

Additional New Deal Programs

New Deal Program	Year Created	Info on the New Deal Program	Impact? Useful or Useless?

In the space below...

- Brainstorm your thesis
- Sketch out your slides
- Build your argument/position