

You Are There: 1934 Civilian Conservation Corps

You've graduated from high school, but everywhere you look are "NOT HIRING" posters. You can't afford college and your parents have other mouths to feed. What do you do? It could really happen to you in the near future if another Great Depression hits.

Your Quest

The year is 1934.

Some of your friends have decided to stay home, but you've chosen to go on a grand adventure and join the CCCs, the Civilian Conservation Corps. You receive a letter saying that you will be taking a train to Munising, Michigan and join others at Camp Wyman, Co. 671.



After several weeks, it's time to write home and tell your friends and family about your experiences. You've taken several photographs like the one above. Use these along with your knowledge of the CCCs to create an electronic scrapbook of your experiences. Be sure to include all the background information you've learned about the mission of the CCCs and the differences between camps and activities.

Beyond the Basics

You don't have to go to Munising, Michigan for your CCC experience. Consider one of the other camps scattered throughout the United States. How would an experience in Arkansas or California be different from an experience in Virginia or Michigan? Why? How would your race impact your experience? How were women involved with the CCCs?

Guidance and Resources

Step 1 - Download the PowerPoint Presentation with the CCC Photographs (<http://escrapbooking.com/epphoto/ccc.ppt>).

Step 2 – Create a list of questions you'd like to address in your electronic scrapbook. You may want to use the speaker notes under each photograph to take notes and/or write your final letter.

Step 3 – Use some of the following resources to gather stories and background information.

- Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni
<http://www.cccalumni.org/>
- With the Civilian Conservation Corps
<http://newdeal.feri.org/forests/af733.htm>

- CCC Site from Metropolitan School District of Wabash County, IN (4th Grade)
<http://www.msdbc.k12.in.us/quest/fourth04/ccc.html>
- Roosevelt's Tree Army. Michigan's Civilian Conservation Corps
http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17451_18670_18793-53515--,00.html
- Library of Congress - CCC Links
<http://memory.loc.gov/pp/cphSubjects116.html>
- Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) 1933-1941
<http://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h1586.html>
- The Civilian Conservation Corps by P. Zacharias, The Detroit News Library
<http://info.detnews.com/history/story/index.cfm?id=90&category=government>

Step 4 – Keep in mind that you are writing to your family and friends. Rather than writing a report, think of your electronic scrapbook as writing a historical fiction account of your experience. Be sure to include factual information. You may also wish to retell stories you read about real people and their experiences.

Project Requirements and Evaluation

Create an electronic scrapbook using Microsoft PowerPoint. Use the speaker notes for text and citations. The following checklist will be used to evaluate your project. Your e-scrapbook should include the following elements:

- Addresses investigative questions about the time period and CCC
- Tells a story that reflects the historical character
- Accurately describes activities of CCC
- Gives details about life in the CCC
- Incorporates well-researched text
- Incorporates photos to illustrate activities and experiences
- Provides clear captions or explanations for visuals
- Includes proper citations for resources including websites, books, and other materials
- Effectively uses the scrapbooking format including visuals, space, shapes, and colors
- Follows a coherent theme and voice throughout the scrapbook
- Uses accurate spelling, punctuation, and grammar
- Takes a creative, interesting approach to scrapbooking

Once you've completed your project, share it with a classmate. Ask them to provide their ideas and suggestions. Compare the experiences of your CCC character to others.

Conclusion

When did the CCC end? Are programs like it available today for young people? Find out about service programs today that provide opportunities for young people.

Citations

CCC, Camp Wyman, Co. 671, Munising, Michigan (1934) from Lamb & Johnson's Digital Collection, 2005.

