

Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Website: http://www.nps.gov/elis/historyculture/index.htm ○ Website: www.uscis.gov ○ Website: http://www.elcivics.com/ ○ Family tree worksheet (one is teacher-made, another can be used found on the EL Civics website) ○ teacher-made vocabulary worksheet ○ teacher-made worksheet on the beginnings of immigration into America and the processing area known as Ellis Island ○ worksheet asking student to interview family members about their first day in America. ○ Packet from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services – “A Guide to Naturalization”. This shows generally how a person can become a citizen of the United States. Also charts from Immigration showing years, countries, and counts of aliens coming into the USA. ○ Computer, internet, and printer
Activities	<p>Step 1 – Write the word “immigration” on the board. Discuss its meaning. Tell class they will be learning when immigrants first came to America, how they were processed at Ellis Island, and how many people came through New York.</p> <p>Step 2 – Give students copies of the vocabulary. Look over the definitions. Then cut out the words and their definitions so that they are mixed up. With a partner, shuffle them around and then put them back in order.</p> <p>Step 3 – Have students look at the reading section (teacher-made worksheet). Note that vocabulary words are in bold type. Let them read the first section silently. Then work with a partner to answer the discussion questions. Work with entire class and share some of the answers. This would be a good time for 2 students to go to the ELCivics.com website to get more information about the buildings and the actual entry process at Ellis Island.</p> <p>Step 4 – Read the second part of the worksheet and do the same with the questions.</p> <p>Step 5 – For an extension, have students begin working on their own family tree. They may need to talk to their relatives to finish the survey.</p> <p>Step 6 – Project #2 – Immigration. Read the short section together. Discuss the assignment. Do a sample interview with the class. Give some ideas as to what people might see first when coming to America. Talk about what might have been challenging and what might have been fascinating. When the students come back with two interviews, and after these have been shared, have students write the interviews in their journal to read later in the year. They can then write in their journal what they learned about the entire project.</p>
Assessment/ Evidence	<p>The students will be able to conduct interviews with family members and be able to share with the class. More advanced students could set up mock interviews from the Ellis Island experience (available at</p>

	http://www.history.com/topics/ellis-island/videos).
Reflection	Even with adaptations such as reducing the vocabulary to five terms, beginning students might have difficulties with this lesson. Being immigrants themselves, students were able to relate to the project.

Ellis Island – First Stop to the United States – Vocabulary

Read the vocabulary words and their definitions. Then cut out the vocabulary words and separate them from the definitions. With a partner match up each definition. A dictionary may also be used.

Immigration	People entering the U.S. to live and work here
Inspection	the process of examining the new immigrants
Ellis Island	the place where immigrants stopped first for their mental and physical conditions
First class	people who were very rich and came to America by ship.
Third class	poor people who came to America by ship. Conditions were terrible for them.
Economic condition	how rich or how poor a country appears to be
Naturalization	procedure for immigrants to become citizens
Citizenship	enjoying the rights of being a citizen

Read the following entry carefully. Be ready to answer questions and discuss your findings with a partner

Part I

As **immigrants** in the United States you are probably curious about how to become a citizen. There are many forms to fill out, documents to locate, and American history to study. You also must be able to speak and understand English during an interview you will do with a person from the Immigration office. In this article you will learn about the background of how immigration became an important part of our country.

People from many different countries have been coming to America since 1565. Poor **economic conditions** in Europe in the 1800's caused thousands of people to come to the U.S. to live. They came from England, China, France, Germany plus many other countries. Immigrants were willing to settle in different areas of the country. Virginia, North Carolina, New York, and New Jersey were just some of the states.

The U.S. needed a **processing** area where they could examine the new immigrants and decide if the people would be allowed to stay in the country. The government bought Ellis Island which is located near the states of New York and New Jersey. As ships brought in thousands of new people, buildings were built. This started in 1851, and by 1852 the main buildings were ready. The wealthy people from the ships were called **first class passengers**. The **third class**, however, was very poor with little education. The conditions on the ships for them were horrible with little food and no bathrooms. As soon as the ships docked, the third class people were taken to Ellis Island. There they had to have physical and mental tests. Some were told they needed to be able to read and write English in order to stay. It was a stressful time for the new immigrants. Sometimes if they were ill they had to stay on Ellis Island and be separated from their families. Still, people kept coming into the country.

Discuss with a partner:

1. Why did people in the 1800's want to come to America?
2. When did people from other countries first come to settle in America?
3. Talk about Ellis Island. Tell the story of what might happen to a third class passenger when entering the country.

Part 2

Starting around 1917 many people were **denied** the chance to come to America. Chinese from Asia were not allowed to come. Other countries also could not send people to the U.S. As the years went on, some of the **restrictions** were lifted allowing more people to come into the country. Then 911 occurred causing the U.S. to be even more careful about who could come in and who could not.

Ellis Island was closed in 1954 and is now an **historic site** run by the **National Parks Service**. Many people come to visit there every day. In 1892 about 500,000 immigrated to the U.S., and in 1907 over one million came in. The National Parks System has said that over 12 million third class passengers were **screened** through the **facilities** at Ellis Island.

Discuss:

1. With your partner or team go to the website for Ellis Island from the National Parks Service. Use this address: <http://www.nps.gov/elis/historyculture/index.htm> Find out why some countries could not send people to live in the U.S. stopping Immigration.
2. Also on the website find the section called "Frequently Asked Questions". With your team find out which state or states Ellis Island is located near.
3. Find out why the database ends in 1924.
4. Have your partner or other team members write down any other pieces of information not already discussed on the website. Share with the entire class.

Now you will understand how immigration worked in the past. This will help you get ready for the process of naturalization or becoming a citizen of the United States.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q 1. How can I become a U.S. citizen?

A You may become a U.S. citizen **(1)** by birth or **(2)** through naturalization.

Q 2. Who is born a U.S. citizen?

A Generally, people are born U.S. citizens if they are born in the United States or if they are born to U.S. citizens:

(1) If you were born in the United States:

Normally you were a U.S. citizen at birth.¹ (Including, in most cases, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the territories of Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and after November 4, 1986, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands),

(2) If you were born abroad to TWO U.S. citizens:

And at least one of your parents lived in the United States at some point in his or her life, **then in most cases you are a U.S. citizen.**

(3) If you were born abroad to ONE U.S. citizen:

In most cases, you are a U.S. citizen if **all** of the following are true:

- One of your parents was a U.S. citizen when you were born;
- Your citizen parent lived at least 5 years in the United States before you were born; and
- At least 2 of those 5 years in the United States were after your citizen parent's 14th birthday.²

Your record of birth abroad, if registered with a U.S. consulate or embassy, is proof of your citizenship. You may also apply for a passport to have your citizenship recognized. If you need additional proof of your citizenship, you may file an "Application for Certificate of Citizenship" (Form N-600) with USCIS to get a Certificate of Citizenship. Call the USCIS Forms Line at **1-800-870-3676** to request Form N-600, or download the form at **www.uscis.gov**.

¹The exception is persons who were born not subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, such as children of foreign diplomats.

²If you were born before November 14, 1986, you are a citizen if your U.S. citizen parent lived in the United States for at least 10 years and 5 of those years in the United States were after your citizen parent's 14th birthday.

Q 3. How do I become a naturalized citizen?

A If you are not a U.S. citizen by birth or did not acquire/derive U.S. citizenship automatically after birth, you may still be eligible to become a citizen through the naturalization process. Eligible persons use the “Application for Naturalization” (Form N-400) to apply for naturalization.

Persons who acquired citizenship from parent(s) while under 18 years of age use the “Application for Certificate of Citizenship” (Form N-600) to document their citizenship. Qualified children who reside abroad use the “Application for Citizenship and Issuance of Certificate under Section 322” (Form N-600K) to document their naturalization. You may call the USCIS Forms Line at **1-800-870-3676** to request a Form N-400, N-600, or N-600K; or you may download all of these forms at **www.uscis.gov**.

Q 4. What are the requirements for naturalization?

A Please see Section 4, “Who Is Eligible For Naturalization?,” beginning on page 17 for more details on the eligibility requirements for naturalization. You should also complete the Eligibility Worksheet in the back of this *Guide* to help you find out if you meet the eligibility requirements.

Q 5. When does my time as a Permanent Resident begin?

A Your time as a Permanent Resident begins on the date you were granted permanent resident status. This date is on your Permanent Resident Card (formerly known as an Alien Registration Card or “Green Card”). The sample cards on this page show where you can find important information such as the date your Permanent Residence began.

	Front	Back	
<p>“A-number”</p> <p>Date you became a Permanent Resident <i>(January 1, 1980)</i></p>			<p>This card does not have Port-of-Entry on it.</p>
<p>“A-number”</p> <p>Port-of-Entry or office where you were granted adjustment of status</p>			<p>Date you became a Permanent Resident <i>(April 3, 1980)</i></p> <p>Port-of-Entry or office where you were granted adjustment of status</p>
<p>“A-number”</p>			<p>Date you became a Permanent Resident <i>(July 12, 1991)</i></p>

NOTE: The “A-number” is the Alien Registration Number

Q 6. What form do I use to file for naturalization?

A You should use an “Application for Naturalization” (Form N-400). Call the USCIS Forms Line at **1-800-870-3676** to request Form N-400. You may also download the form at www.uscis.gov.

Q 7. If I have been convicted of a crime but my record has been expunged, do I need to write that on my application or tell a USCIS officer?

A Yes. You should always be honest with USCIS about all:

- Arrests (even if you were not charged or convicted);
- Convictions (even if your record was cleared or expunged);
- Crimes you have committed for which you were not arrested or convicted; and
- Any countervailing evidence, or evidence in your favor concerning the circumstances of your arrests, and/or convictions or offenses that you would like USCIS to consider.



Important

Even if you have committed a minor crime, USCIS may deny your application if you do not tell the USCIS officer about the incident. Note that unless a traffic incident was alcohol or drug related, you do not need to submit documentation for traffic fines and incidents that did not involve an actual arrest if the only penalty was a fine less than **\$500** and/or points on your driver’s license.

Q 8. Where do I file my naturalization application?

A You should send your completed “Application for Naturalization” (Form N-400) to the appropriate USCIS Lockbox Facility that serves your area, see page 34 for detailed instructions. Also see page 34 for separate filing instructions for members of the Armed Forces and the spouses of active members of the Armed Forces. Remember to make a copy of your application. **Do not** send original documents with your application unless the Document Checklist included with this *Guide* states that an original is required. **Always** make copies of documents that you send to USCIS.

Q 9. Will USCIS help me, or make accommodations for me, if I have a disability?

A USCIS will make every effort to make reasonable accommodations for applicants with disabilities who need modifications to the naturalization process in order to demonstrate their eligibility. For example, if you use a wheelchair, we will make sure you can be fingerprinted, interviewed, and sworn in at a location that is wheelchair accessible. If you are hearing impaired, the officer conducting your interview will speak loudly and slowly, or we will work with you to arrange for an American sign language interpreter. If you require an American sign language interpreter at the oath ceremony, please indicate that in your Form N-400 in the section where you are asked if you need an

Extended project:

Now you can set up your own family tree and ask one or two people who have already come to the United States about their first impressions of the new country.



Project #2 – Immigration

In the late 1800's and early 1900's many people came into the United States and stayed, forming cultural neighborhoods and finding jobs. Their work ethic (how well they worked) helped make the country the strong nation that it is today. These people worked hard for their families. A person whose relatives went through Ellis Island can now go to the database set up by the Parks Service and try to find the name of a relative who entered the U.S. . You can also find out more about your own relatives. Some have already come to the U.S. Set up your own family tree using the form below and share information with your children or friends. Then choose two people who have already come to live in America and ask them to answer questions about the first time they came into the country. Ask them how they felt when they saw America for the first time. What did they like? What did they not like? Then write about your impression of the U.S. What scared you the most? What was brand new? What was similar to your home country? Share these thoughts with your partner during class.

Person 1 -

Person 2 -

Your feelings:

My Family Tree

My name and date of birth: _____

Place of birth: _____

Hobbies: (What you like to do.)

Do the same for your paternal grandparents (your father's parents)

Grandfather _____

Grandmother _____

Maternal grandparents (your mother's parents)

Grandfather _____

Grandmother _____

Your parents: Father _____

Mother _____

Your wife's or husband's parents:

Father _____

Mother _____