

# TEACHER'S GUIDE

## Vocabulary Activity

### Part 2: Neighbors in Need

#### MISSION 5: "Up from the Dust"

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#### A NOTE TO THE EDUCATOR:

*On the following pages, you will find "flashcards" with terms and definitions (both combined and separate) that your students may encounter while playing Part 2 of "Up from the Dust." These terms and definitions can be introduced and practiced before or during the time students see or hear them in the context of Mission US or in their American history study. The discussion questions and writing prompts will provide further opportunities for students to have more practice with the words and terms.*

*Divide your students into small groups of four or five, and ask each group to review the terms and definitions.*

*After your students have had a chance to review and discuss the terms and definitions, distribute the excerpt from Frank and Ginny's interview conducted by Ginny's granddaughter. Review the directions with your students, and ask them to complete the text using the terms they studied.*

*Here is the order in which the following terms should be inserted into each blank within the excerpt:*

*inquisitive*

*tenant farmer*

*drought*

*foreclosure*

*precipice*

*yard*

*drifters*

*riding the rails*

*bulls*

*Great War*

*veterans*

*Bonus Army*



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**Bonus Army**

The popular name for a group of 20,000 World War I veterans who gathered in Washington, D.C. in the summer of 1932 to pressure Congress to make an early cash bonus payment for their military service.



**veteran**

A person who has served in the military.



**drifter**

A person who moves from place to place, without a permanent home or job.



**foreclosure**

When a bank takes possession of property because the owner failed to pay back the bank loan or mortgage on time. The bank may then sell the property to a new owner.



**Great War**

Another name for World War I, which the US entered in 1917 on the side of the Allies.



**inquisitive**

Curious and tending to ask questions.



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**drought**

A prolonged period of unusually low rainfall, resulting in a shortage of water.



**bulls**

Railroad police officers who keep rail yards secure from trespassers and prevent theft from or damage to railroad property.



**riding the rails**

Riding on freight trains, illegally.



**tenant farmer**

A person who farms land owned by another person and pays rent in the form of cash or a portion of the crop produced.



**yards**

Rail yards, an area containing a series of railroad tracks for parking, connecting, loading and unloading railroad cars.



**precipice**

the edge of a cliff



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**Bonus Army**



**veteran**



**drifter**



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**Great War**



**inquisitive**





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<p>The popular name for a group of 20,000 World War I veterans who gathered in Washington, D.C. in the summer of 1932 to pressure Congress to make an early cash bonus payment for their military service.</p>	<p>A person who has served in the military.</p>
<p>A person who moves from place to place, without a permanent home or job.</p>	<p>When a bank takes possession of property because the owner failed to pay back the bank loan or mortgage on time. The bank may then sell the property to a new owner.</p>
<p>Another name for World War I, which the US entered in 1917 on the side of the Allies.</p>	<p>Curious and tending to ask questions.</p>

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<p>A prolonged period of unusually low rainfall, resulting in a shortage of water.</p>	<p>Railroad police officers who keep rail yards secure from trespassers and prevent theft from or damage to railroad property.</p>
<p>Riding on freight trains, illegally.</p>	<p>A person who farms land owned by another person and pays rent in the form of cash or a portion of the crop produced.</p>
<p>Rail yards, an area containing a series of railroad tracks for parking, connecting, loading and unloading railroad cars.</p>	<p>the edge of a cliff</p>

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Activity: In 1990, more than fifty years after the events of "Up from the Dust," Ginny Dunn's granddaughter Emily interviewed Ginny and Frank for a middle school history assignment about the Great Depression. The following is a portion of that interview.

After reading and talking about the words and terms on the flash cards, read this excerpt from the interview, and use your memory to fill in the missing words and terms.

<i>Bonus Army</i>	<i>veterans</i>	<i>drought</i>	<i>drifters</i>
<i>foreclosure</i>	<i>Great War</i>	<i>inquisitive</i>	<i>bulls</i>
<i>riding the rails</i>	<i>yard</i>	<i>tenant farmer</i>	<i>precipice</i>

**Emily:** Who was your closest friend during the Depression, Grandma?

**Ginny:** I was very close to a girl named Thelma Mitchell. She and I participated in club activities and we loved to bake. If we had a baking demonstration at the club, Thelma was always very \_\_\_\_\_, asking for specific measurements of ingredients and writing down instructions. Her father was also a close friend of our father's. He didn't own his farm, but was a \_\_\_\_\_. He had to pay rent for the land he grew his crops on. Thelma was worried about having to leave town if the family couldn't make the rent.

**Frank:** The Mitchells weren't the only family hurting. Once the \_\_\_\_\_ affected the harvest, everyone's finances dwindled. Lots of farmers started having problems with the banks.

**Emily:** But why did so many people end up losing their farms?

**Frank:** When people couldn't pay their mortgages, their farms went into \_\_\_\_\_. The bank took their property back, and sold it to someone else. People ended up broke and with nothing.

**Emily:** That's horrifying.

**Ginny:** It was hard for everyone. People like Thelma wouldn't know until the last week of every month whether they were moving out of town or staying. It was nerve wracking, like living on a \_\_\_\_\_. Our club activities were a good distraction.

**Emily:** What about your friends, Great Uncle Frank?

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**Ginny:** You were a little bit of a loner, Frank. I think I was your best friend!

**Frank:** No, I had other friends. But I enjoyed some alone time—I'd tend to the cows, or read a book. I really liked going to the rail \_\_\_\_\_ and watching the \_\_\_\_\_ plan their next move by \_\_\_\_\_. Most of them were young men wanting to flee misery and seek adventure. Whenever a freight train approached, they would hide behind bushes. If the railroad \_\_\_\_\_ saw them, they could be thrown off the train, or made to pay the train fare with all of their belongings. Once the coast was clear and the train would start moving again, they would run alongside the train and hoist themselves onto a boxcar.

**Emily:** Did any of the young men ever ask you to come along?

**Frank:** Well, the only time I was ever asked was actually by an older man back at the farm. He had served in the military during the \_\_\_\_\_, but came to our farm looking for ways to earn money. He told me his plan was to make it to Washington, D.C. to join other \_\_\_\_\_ like him in the \_\_\_\_\_ to demand government action for the military folks.