

## **Title: Dust Bowl- Did Farming Make it Worse?**

**Summary:** Students will learn about the Dust Bowl and how extensive farming, without crop rotation, contributed to the severe wind erosion . Students will learn how today's farmers take steps to prevent this from happening again.

### **List of Materials/Supplies:**

Images of the Great Depression-

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/fsa.8b38299>

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/fsa.8b38283>

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/cph.3c29097>

### **Analyzing Photographs and Prints Teacher's Guide-**

[http://www.loc.gov/teachers/usingprimarysources/resources/Analyzing\\_Photos\\_and\\_Prints.pdf](http://www.loc.gov/teachers/usingprimarysources/resources/Analyzing_Photos_and_Prints.pdf)

### **Analyzing Photographs and Prints for Students-**

<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/primary-source-analysis-tool/>

### **Video about the Dust Bowl-**

[http://digitalstorytelling.coe.uh.edu/movie\\_social\\_studies\\_02.html](http://digitalstorytelling.coe.uh.edu/movie_social_studies_02.html)

### **Article about the Dust Bowl-**

<http://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/green-science/dust-bowl-cause.htm>

### **Map of United States-**

[http://www.eduplace.com/ss/maps/pdf/us\\_nl.pdf](http://www.eduplace.com/ss/maps/pdf/us_nl.pdf)

### **Keeping Soil Healthy Packet-**

<http://www.fao.org/ag/ca/AfricaTrainingManualCD/PDF%20Files/04SOIL1.PDF>

### **Procedures/Steps:**

1. Hand out the different pictures. Hand out the Analyzing Photographs and Prints for Students. You will need to have the Analyzing Photographs and Prints Teacher's Guide for this step. Give students a minute to look them over. Then, start to ask the questions from the teachers guide. Have students record answers on their student papers.
2. After looking at all of these pictures, ask students if they know where these pictures are from? Take all answers at this time. Record them on the board.
3. Do a KWL on the Bust Bowl. Accept all answers at this time.
4. Play the Dust Bowl video for the students.
5. Read the Article: What Caused the Dust Bowl?

6. Have students color map of United States where the Dust Bowl occurred.
7. Talk about the causes of the Dust Bowl that are related to soil. Read through the Keeping Soil Healthy Packet as a class.
8. Revisit the KWL and finish it. Change or get rid of any answers that no longer apply.

**Assessment-** Have students write a narrative placing themselves in the Dust Bowl. Have them write about what it was like to live during that time. Have them talk about experiences that could have happened, and explain why farming contributed to the severity of the Dust Bowl. Then, have them explain what steps farmers today are taking to prevent this from happening again.