



Student Performance Events

Stimulus Materials

Proficiency Assessments for Mississippi Students-Alternate
MISSISSIPPI-ALT

Grade 6 Released

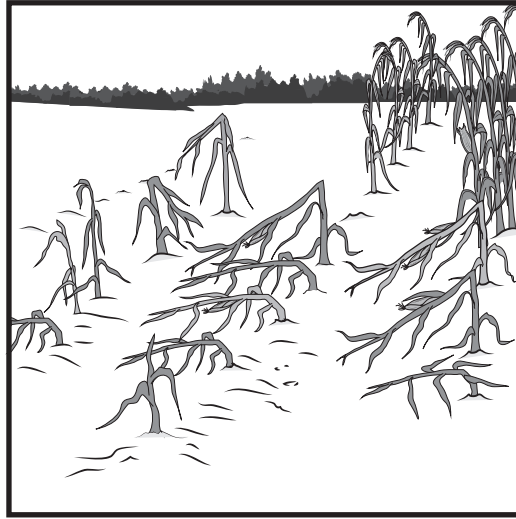
ELA and Mathematics

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ELA



The Dust Bowl

During the 1930s, farmers in the American Plains had a hard time making a living. No rain fell for many years. Without rain, their crops were ruined. Without rain, farmers couldn't plant new crops. Without crops to sell, the farmers had little money. The farmers and their families suffered. The farmland slowly turned to dust.

When the winds blew, the dust was so thick that people couldn't see their hands in front of their faces. The American Plains became known as the Dust Bowl—a land of dust storms and of hard times.



Living in Kansas and Oklahoma during the Dust Bowl became almost impossible. Houses were buried in dust. It was impossible to keep anything clean. Avis D. Carlson wrote an article in the *New Republic*, "We live with the dust, eat it, sleep with it, watch it strip us of possessions and the hope of possessions."

Many families moved to California to find jobs, but work was hard to find. For many families, the promise of a better life in California brought new challenges and hardships. The hard times and worries brought on by the Dust Bowl were not left behind.

During the Dust Bowl, farmers planted many new crops.

During the Dust Bowl, farmers had a hard time making a living.

During the Dust Bowl, only a few families moved to find jobs.

**It was impossible to
keep anything clean.**

**Without crops to sell, the
farmers had little money.**

**Many people living in Kansas
and Oklahoma were farmers.**

Farmers planted a lot of crops.

Farmers had dust in their houses.

Farmers could not make money.

Living in the Dust Bowl

This report is about what life was like for many Americans who lived through a time known as the Dust Bowl. Life became difficult, and families faced new problems. Many people

In the 1930s, no rain fell for many years on the American Plains. Because there was no rain,

the farmers

The farmland slowly turned to dust. When the

winds blew, the dust

To find work, the farmers and their families



The Dust Bowl meant hard times for many Americans. However, Woody Guthrie wrote songs that gave people hope for a new future in America.

Astronomers are _____ who research space. They study planets, stars, and other objects in space. They want to understand more about the universe.

artists

dentists

scientists

Objects in space are very far away. An astronomer uses a _____ to observe them.



Mathematics

Sarah bought 3 shirts. Each shirt cost the same amount. She paid a total of \$21 for the shirts. What is the cost of one shirt?

$$3 + x = 21$$

$$3x = 21$$

$$3 - x = 21$$