

AN IMMIGRANT KID'S LIFE



What was life like for immigrant kids
in New Hampshire during the 19th century?

Coming to America!

What would you bring?

The journey to America might take several weeks, and you would have to carry everything you want to bring.



What toy would you bring to play with on the ship? Marbles, a spinning top, a doll, a book?



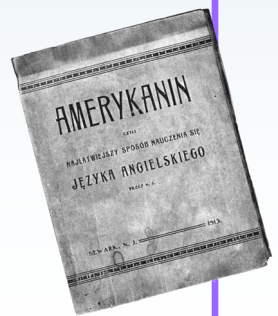
The New World!

How would you help your family adjust to their new lives in America?

Language: Kids learned English faster than adults, so they would act as interpreters for their parents.

Culture: Kids picked up American culture faster than adults, too. They played with American kids, learned American games, and participated in American sports.

Work: Immigrant families often didn't have much money when they arrived in America, so kids might have to work in the factories instead of going to school. Just like their parents, kids in the factories worked 6 days a week, 10 to 12 hours a day.



Old World Traditions!

How would you remember the heritage of your native land?

School: Immigrant kids might attend 2 schools:

- a public school with American kids; and
- a Saturday school where they learned about their native land (language, traditions, and customs)

Neighborhood: Immigrant kids often lived in ethnic neighborhoods, which were strongly influenced by the culture of their native country.

So, for example, Italian kids lived in Italian neighborhoods where everyone spoke Italian, ate Italian food, shopped at Italian businesses, and preserved Italian culture.

