

Virginia Studies Review

VS.8 a-c

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the reconstruction of Virginia following the Civil War by:

- a)** identifying the effects of Reconstruction on life in Virginia.
- b)** identifying the effects of segregation and “Jim Crow” on life in Virginia for whites, African Americans, and American Indians.
- c)** describing the importance of railroads, new industries, and the growth of cities to Virginia’s economic development.

VS.8 - The student will demonstrate knowledge of the reconstruction of Virginia following the Civil War by:

a) identifying the effects of Reconstruction on life in Virginia.

Virginians faced serious problems in rebuilding the state after the war.

Term to Know

Reconstruction: The period following the Civil War in which Congress passed laws designed to rebuild the country and bring the southern states back into the Union

What were some of the problems Virginians faced during the period of Reconstruction following the Civil War?

Problems faced by Virginians during Reconstruction:

- Millions of freed slaves needed

- Housing
- Education
- Clothing
- Food
- Jobs



- Virginia's economy was in ruins:

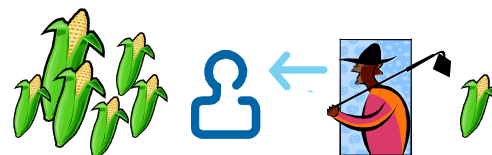
- Money had no value.
- Banks were closed.
- Railroads, bridges, plantations, and crops were destroyed.



What measures were taken during Reconstruction to resolve Virginia's problems?

Measures taken to resolve problems

- The Freedmen's Bureau was a government agency that provided food, schools, and medical care for freed slaves and others in Virginia and the rest of the South.
- Sharecropping was a system common in Virginia after the war in which freedmen and poor white farmers rented land from a landowner by promising to pay the owner with a share of the crop.



VS.8 - The student will demonstrate knowledge of the reconstruction of Virginia following the Civil War by:

b) identifying the effects of segregation and “Jim Crow” on life in Virginia for whites, African Americans, and American Indians.

The freedoms and rights promised to African Americans were slowly taken away after Reconstruction, and it would take years to win them back.

Terms to Know



Segregation: The separation of people, usually based on race or religion

Discrimination: An unfair difference in the treatment of people

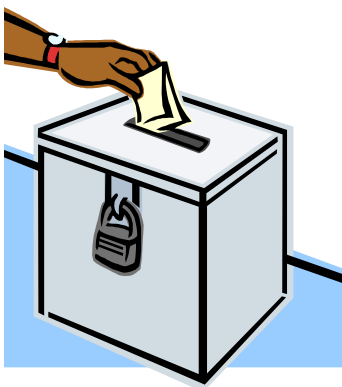
What happened to the rights of African Americans after Reconstruction?

During Reconstruction, African Americans began to have power in Virginia’s government, and men of all races could vote.

After Reconstruction, these gains were lost when “Jim Crow” Laws were passed by southern states. “Jim Crow” Laws established segregation or separation of the races and reinforced prejudices held by whites.

During Reconstruction	After Reconstruction
	

What impact did “Jim Crow” laws have on whites, African Americans and American Indians in Virginia?



Jim Crow” laws had an effect on the lives of African Americans and American Indians.

- Unfair poll taxes and voting tests were established to keep African Americans from voting.
- African Americans found it very difficult to vote or hold public office.
- African Americans were forced to use separate poor quality services, such as drinking fountains.
- “Jim Crow” laws had an effect on American Indians.
- African American and white children attended separate schools.

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the reconstruction of Virginia following the Civil War by:

c) describing the importance of railroads, new industries, and the growth of cities to Virginia's economic development.

What changes took place in Virginia to boost the economic growth?



Virginia began to grow in many areas after the Civil War and Reconstruction.

- Virginia's cities grew with people, businesses, and factories.
- Railroads were a key to the expansion of business, agriculture, and industry. They facilitated the growth of small towns to cities. Railroad centers stimulated the growth of factories where clothing, furniture, and other useful items were made.
- Other parts of Virginia grew as other industries developed. Coal deposits, discovered in Tazewell County after the Civil War.
- The need for more and better roads increased.
- Tobacco farming and tobacco products became important Virginia industries.

