



Grades 3-8

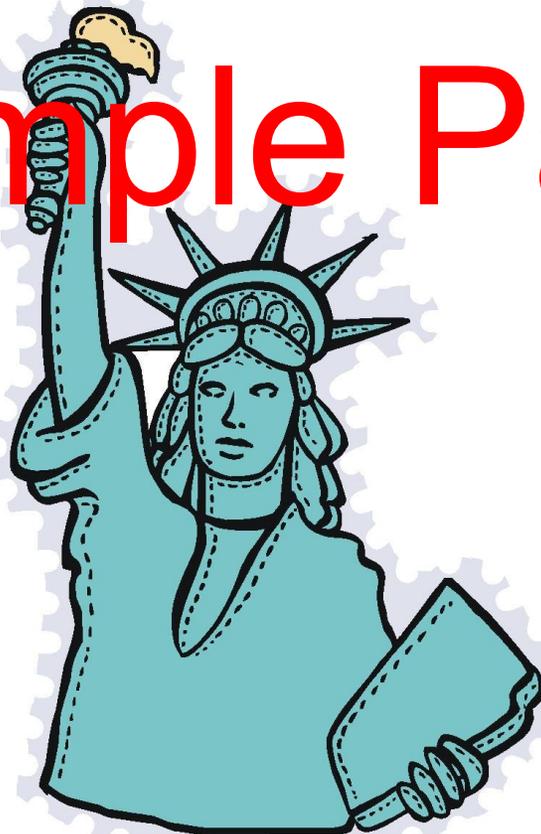
# Welcome to Ellis Island

Learning Lapbook with Study Guides

Study Guides written by Michelle Miller,

author of *TruthQuest History*™

# Sample Page



A Journey Through Learning  
[www.ajourneythroughlearning.com](http://www.ajourneythroughlearning.com)

Authors-Paula Winget and Nancy Fileccia  
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**While you are there, sign up for our email newsletter and  
Receive a FREE lapbook!  
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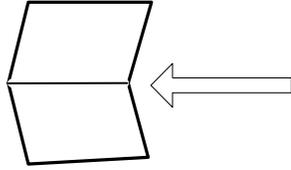
**Sample Page**

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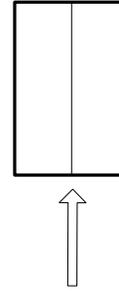
**Special thank you to Michelle Miller,  
author of TruthQuest History™,  
for her writing of the study guides for this lapbook!  
Check out TruthQuest History™ at  
[www.truthquesthistory.com](http://www.truthquesthistory.com)**

# Things to Know

**Hamburger Fold**-Fold horizontally



**Hotdog Fold**-Fold vertically

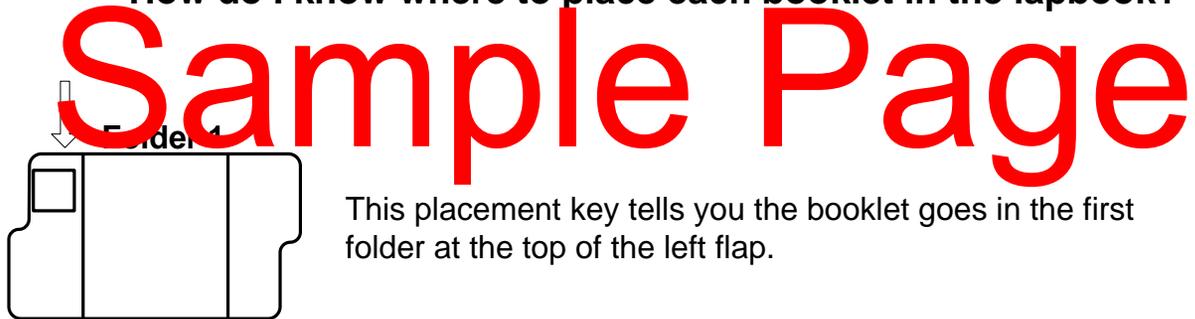


**Dotted Lines**-These are the cutting lines

**Accordion Fold**-This fold is like making a paper fan. Fold on the first line so that title is on top. Turn over and fold on next line so that title is on top again. Turn over again and fold again on the next line so that title is on top. Continue until all folds are done.

**Cover Labels**-Most of the booklets that are folded look nicer with a label on top instead of just a blank space. They will be referred to as "cover label."

How do I know where to place each booklet in the lapbook?



This placement key tells you the booklet goes in the first folder at the top of the left flap.

A booklet placement key is at the top of every booklet page. This key shows where that particular booklet will go in that folder.

## Lapbook Assembly Choices

(see photos on how to fold and glue your folders together)

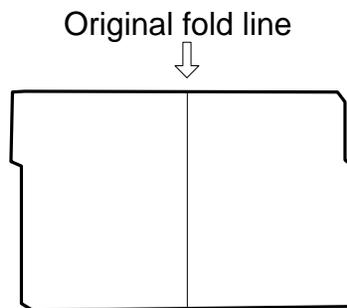
**We recommend using Zip Dry Glue.**

Choice #1 -Do not glue your folders together until you have completely finished all three folders. It is easier to work with one folder instead of two or three glued together.

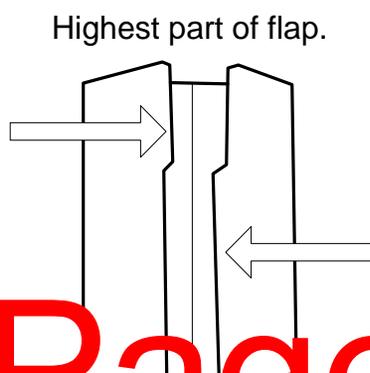
Choice #2 -Glue all of your folders together before beginning. Some children like to see the entire project as they work on it. It helps with keeping up with which folder you are supposed to be working in. The choices are completely up to you and your child!

# Folding a Lapbook Base

Gather the number of folders required for the project. Fold them flat as seen here.



For each folder, fold the left and right sides inward toward the original line to create two flaps. Crease so that the highest part of each flap is touching the original line. It is important not to let the two flaps overlap. *You may want to take a ruler and run it down each crease to make it sharper.*



# Sample Page

Glue your folders together by putting glue (or you may staple) on the inside of the flaps. Then press the newly glued flaps together with your hands until they get a good strong hold to each other. Follow this step to add as many folders as you need for your project. Most of our lapbooks have either 2 or 3 folders.

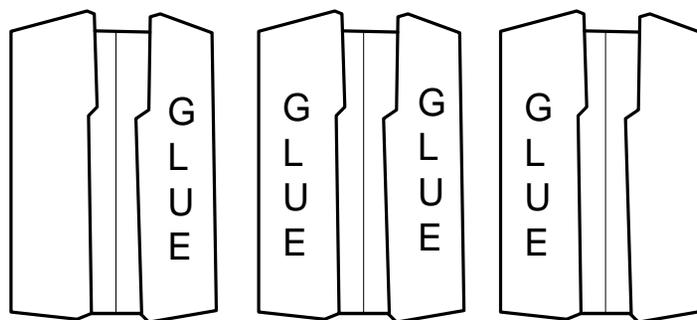
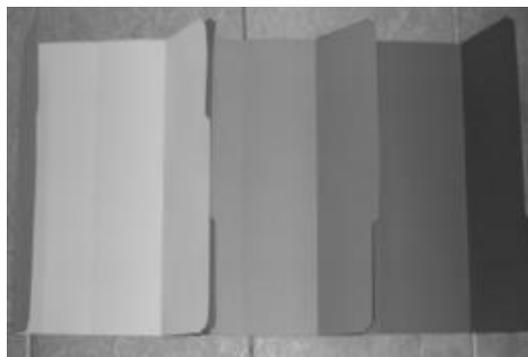
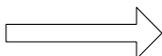


Photo of a completed lapbook base



# Supplies and Storage

- \*Lapbook Pages
- \*3 Colored File Folders
- \*Scissors
- \*Glue
- \*Stapler
- \*Brads (not needed for every lapbook. If brads are not available, a stapler will do.)
- \*Hole Puncher (again, not needed for every lapbook.)

## To make the storage system (optional)

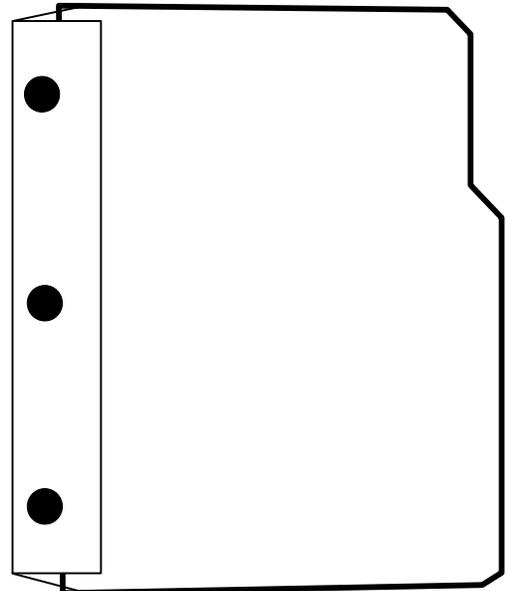
See details below about the use of a storage system.

- \*Duct tape (any color)
- \*One 3-ring binder
- \*Hole Puncher

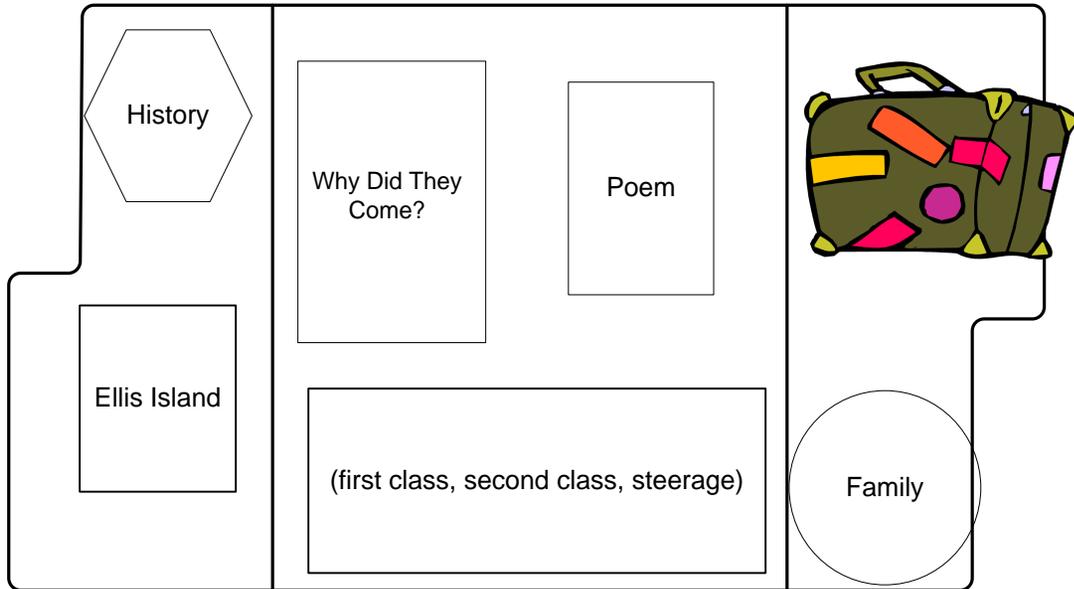
## My child has made several lapbooks. Can I store all of the lapbooks together in one place?

Yes! A three-ring binder serves as a great place to keep your lapbooks. This method of storage not only keeps your lapbooks from getting lost but also keeps them neat and readily available to share with dad, grandpa, friends, etc. When you are through sharing your lapbooks, just place the three-ring binder back on your lapbook shelf! Below are step-by-step directions of how to prepare each lapbook to be placed in a three-ring binder.

Close the lapbook. Measure a piece of duct tape that is as long as the lapbook. Place the edge of the duct tape on the top edge of the lapbook. Then fold the duct tape over so that it can be placed on the bottom edge. Make sure to leave enough duct tape sticking out from the edges to punch three holes. Be careful when punching the holes that you do not punch the holes in the folder. If you do, that's okay. Then place in three-ring binder. Depending on the size of your three-ring binder, you can store many lapbooks in it.

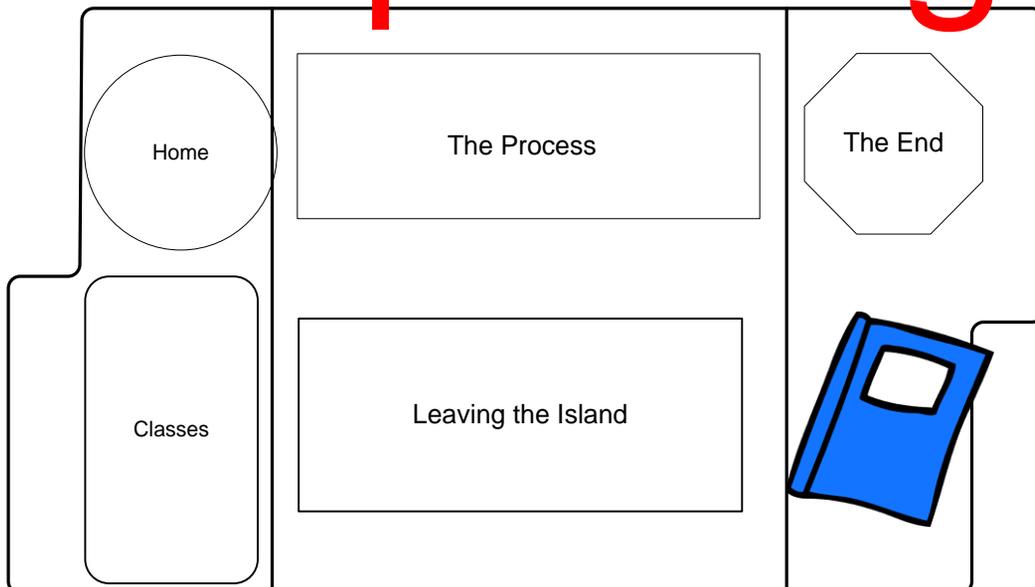


## Folder 1

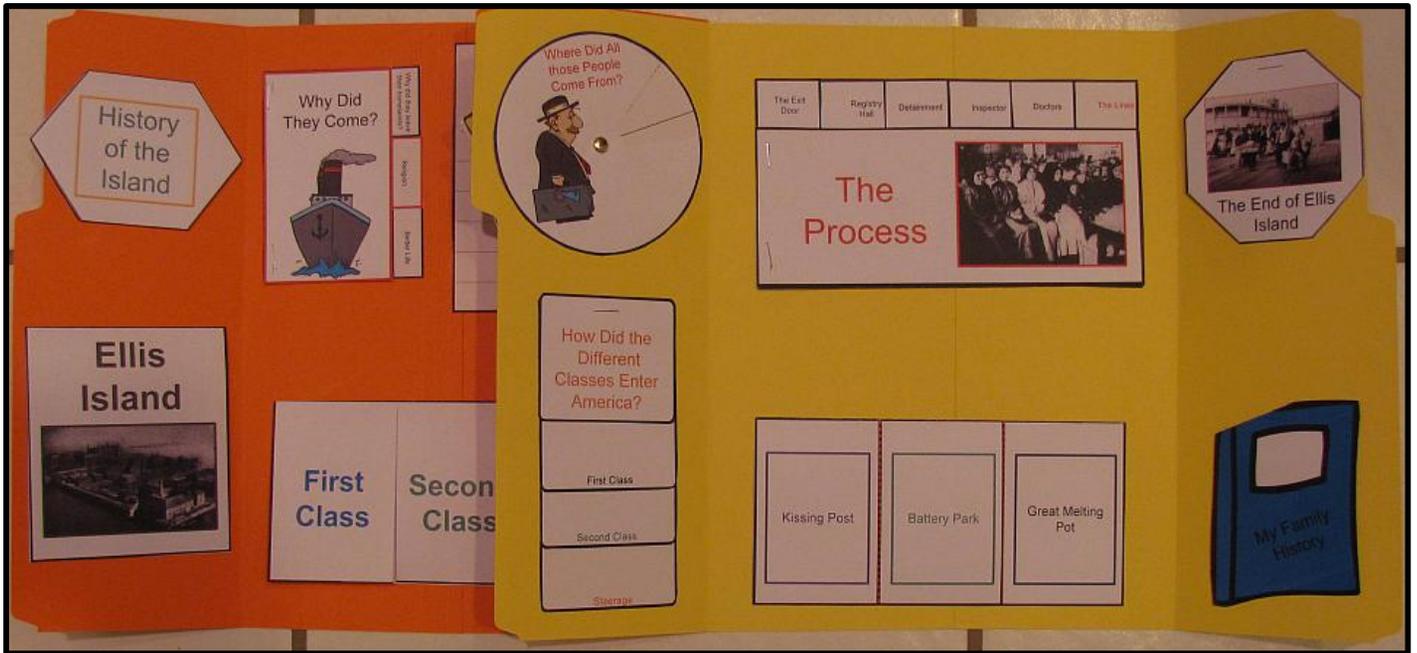


# Sample Page

## Folder 2



# Photo of assembled lapbook



# Sample Page

This new immigrant is seeing the Statue of Liberty for the first time. Draw it on your page. Then cut out and glue to the front of your closed lapbook.

Welcome to Ellis Island

Sample Page



## What was Ellis Island?

Have you ever pushed back from the table after a wonderful Thanksgiving feast and basked in the great stories being told by the older generations while everyone is too full to move? Then, you may have heard them talking, with misty eyes, about their beloved grandparents coming to America—this land of plenty which is so rightly celebrated by the Thanksgiving holiday—through the “golden door” of Ellis Island.

So what exactly was Ellis Island? It was one of the most important stations for receiving immigrants into the United States, and because it was nearly in the shadow of the Statue of Liberty, her torch was the first thing seen by the exhausted, harried immigrants as their ships neared New York Harbor. Yes, while soaking in Lady Liberty’s message, the immigrants were taken to Ellis Island. There they were checked, and those who were accepted called it the “Island of Hope.” But for those rejected, Ellis Island became the “Island of Tears.”

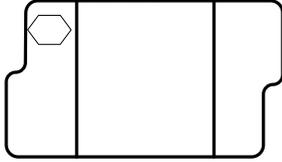
Of course, this tiny islet first belonged to the Mohegan Indians, who called it Gull Island. In 1630, they sold it to Dutch colonists, who named it Little Oyster Island, since so many of those delicacies could be harvested there and it was a wonderful place for a picnic. (Greater Oyster Island is what they named the neighboring islet which now serves as the base for the Statue of Liberty.) Little Oyster later passed into English hands, as all of New York City did when the Dutch (who called it New Amsterdam) lost a war to England. It continued to be a place for harvesting shellfish, picnic outings, and criminal hangings.

Eventually a local named Samuel Ellis bought the island (1774); it has carried his name ever since. He opened a tavern and also sold fish by the barrelful. But the State of New York soon claimed it for military defense, building Fort Gibson there. Later, it became property of the federal government, and during the Civil War (1860s), the North’s navy stored gunpowder there.

By 1890, a *much* larger space for processing immigrants was needed, because the flood of newcomers escaping Ireland’s horrific potato famine in the 1840s and 1850s became a tidal wave when even those in eastern and southern Europe also dreamed of life in America. The military base on Ellis Island seemed a perfect place. The thick-walled buildings which had housed explosive gunpowder made sturdy vaults for immigration records, and the barracks could easily be converted to hospitals and detention (holding) areas. A large hall was built, the island was enlarged with the diggings from New York City’s subway system and also ship ballast, and on January 1, 1892 the first immigrant—a 15-year-old Irish girl named Annie Moore—stepped through the open “golden door”....

By the time it closed in 1954, over 12,000,000 immigrants were accepted into the United States on Ellis Island, and many Thanksgiving stories—the tales of a family’s past—have chapters set on this little bit of land in New York Harbor, sheltering under the Statue of Liberty’s glowing torch. Yes, many dreams came true there, or began to, but this island also saw devastating disappointment and family-tearing separations...

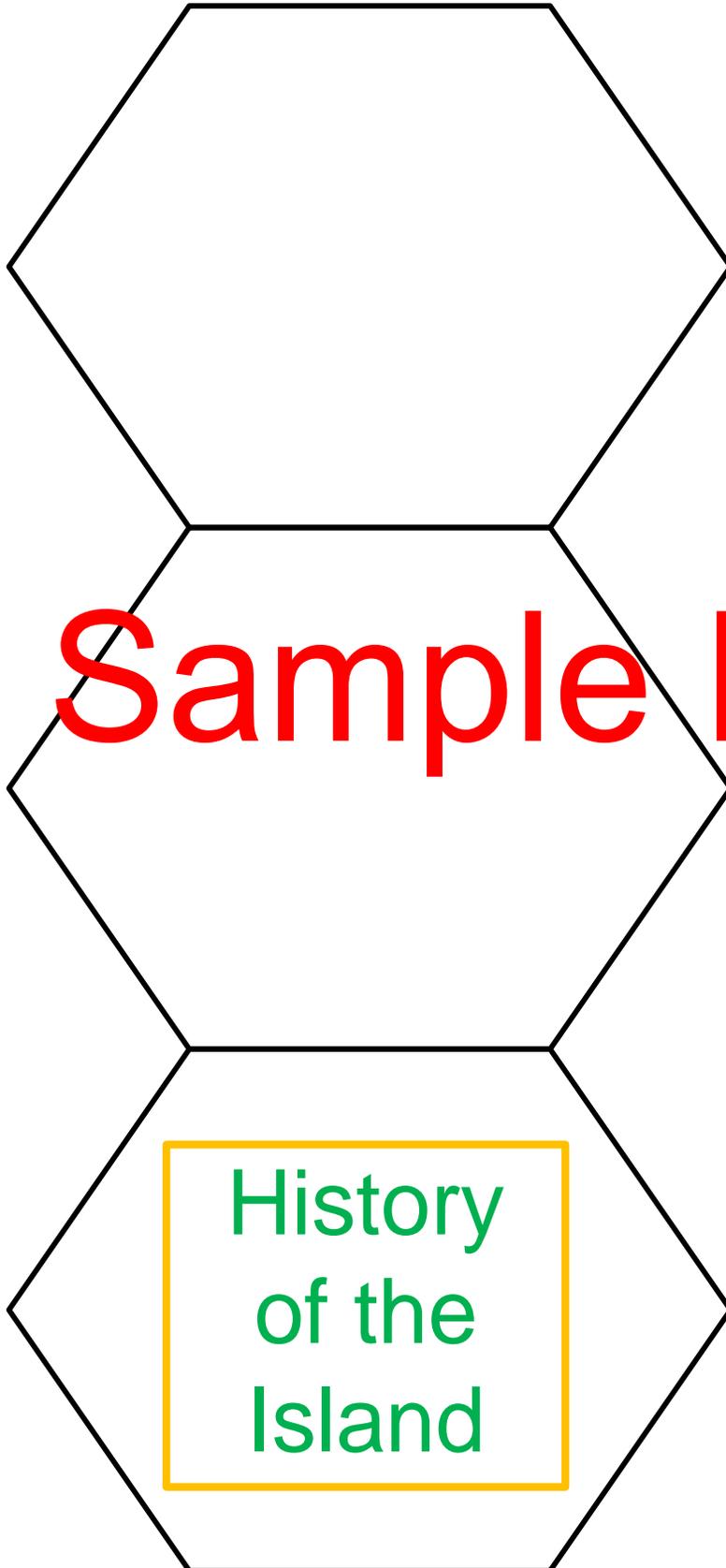
### Folder 1



### Read What was Ellis Island?

Cut out booklet as one piece. Tri-fold with title on top. Cut out words tabs. Glue one word on each booklet piece inside of booklet. Glue booklet into lapbook.

**Directions:** Underneath each word tab, write the information.



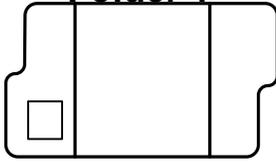
Mohegan  
Indians

Dutch colonists

The English

Samuel Ellis

## Folder 1



### Read What was Ellis Island?

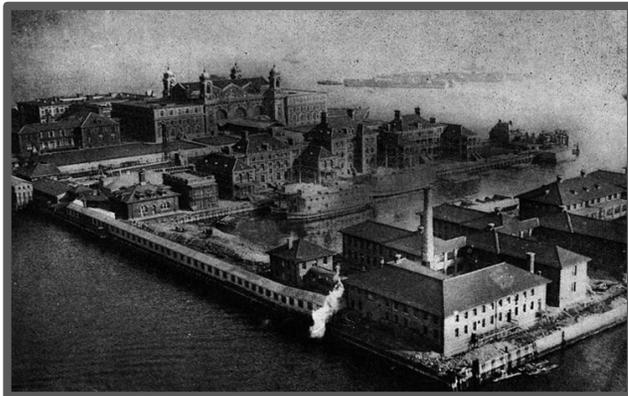
Cut out booklet. Hamburger fold in half. Cut out the label and glue to the inside of the booklet. Glue into lapbook.

**Directions:** On each booklet, write what you have learned.

Why was Samuel Ellis Island chosen for the spot to house incoming immigrants?

# Sample Page

## Ellis Island



## Why Did People Want to Come to America?

To even think about leaving one's house and homeland, to depart everything known and cherished, to save one's pennies for years when already in hunger and poverty in order to afford a ship passage, to be thrust into a new life, a new language, and a new land...was indeed a terrifying prospect! There must be a good reason for such a strenuous and dangerous journey...and there was.

You see, a country is only as wonderful as it is godly. If the Lord's living truths are pulsing in its churches, then truth can also flow through its government, economy, social structure, art, literature, science, law courts, etc. But where spiritual things have grown stale, human authority is valued over God's authority. And when humans have selfish power, unchecked by God's standards, their nature is to seek benefit and wealth for themselves...at the expense of the common man laboring for them from dawn til dusk.

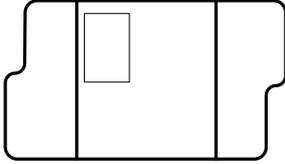
That is just what was happening in most of Europe. These countries originally had a strong Christian presence, but over the centuries, as too many church leaders pursued political and financial gains, the governmental rulers could do no better. Together, they worked the masses hard, and they extracted the earnings. Generation after generation lived in abject poverty without any hope of change because those in power had no desire to correct the system. How different this is from God's way, for He "does not favor the rich over the poor, for they are all the work of his hands." (Job 34:19)

Folks trapped in endless misery in Europe (and even those better off) longed for one thing: hope. And that is just what America offered, because it had originally been built in large part upon godly principles which *always* bring opportunity and blessing! Why, America had gone from a primitive colony to the wealthiest and most powerful nation on earth in little more than a century! God's principles are *that* powerful! That is why France gifted the United States with the Statue of Liberty on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. And on it was later inscribed one of the most spine-tingling poems (by Emma Lazarus) ever composed, and it perfectly called out to those hoping for a new life at Ellis Island:

***"Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"***

This is the nation we love and the one we are working to preserve! This is what God's principles bring to people, for He alone knows how governments, laws, business, and families work well! They turn an immigration station like Ellis Island into a *Golden Door!*

## Folder 1



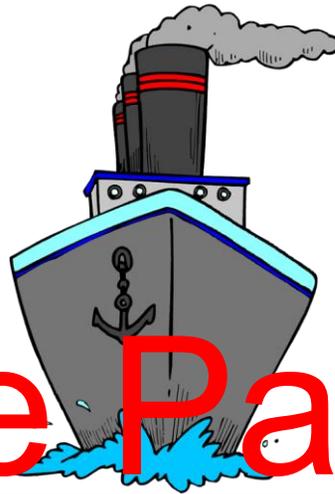
### Read Why Did People Want to Come to America?

Cut out the pieces. DO NOT CUT OFF TABS. Stack together with title page on top and staple down the left side. Glue into lapbook.

**Directions:** On each booklet, write what you have learned.

Why did they leave  
their homelands?

## Why Did They Come?

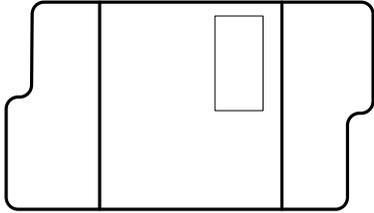


# Sample Page

Religion

Better Life

**Folder 1**



**Read Why Did People Want to Come to America?**

Cut out the booklet as one piece. Glue into lapbook.

**Directions:** Copy the passage in your best handwriting.

"Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

Sample Page