The Great Depression is defined by historians as the time period in the United States between 1929 and the late 1930s. It was a time of economic uncertainty, change, and despair for many Americans. Times were tough for many people who lived in Washington State. It had been that way since World War I. Most jobs in Washington relied on the state’s natural resources. From logging to agriculture, businesses had been hit hard when wartime demand decreased. But things were about to get much worse. Communities and individuals had to come together to find ways to deal with this new crisis.

Stop #2 Riding The Rails

Using the “hobo code,” create a sign to let people know that this is a place they might be able to find food.

If you were to create a sign to tell people something about your home (or another place of your choosing), what would that sign look like?
**Stop #3  Wooden Money**

Read about Tenino’s wooden money, then consider what you would do if you had to invent a way to pay people. What do you have around your home that could be used in place of money? If you were to make money, who or what would be pictured on it?

![Image of wooden money]

**Stop #4  Hooverville**

Look carefully at the images of the shacks that you see in the photograph of Hooverville. What kinds of materials did people use to build their houses? Name as many different materials as you can identify.

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**Stop #5  Art on Skid Road**

Ronald Debs Ginther used drawings to tell the stories of important moments in his life. Think about something that has happened since you were born that you think people will want to know about in one hundred years. Draw a picture of it or write a short poem telling that story.
Many workers for the Civilian Conservation Corps were assigned projects to build or maintain parks. If you were asked to build something new for one of your city’s parks, what would it be?

**BONUS!** Pick your favorite park and make a diagram of it. Where in the park would you put your new creation? Include your new structure in the diagram! Use the internet for inspiration and to help with your diagram.

Just like today, famous people and movie stars inspired the creation of many things during the Great Depression, from popular music to toys and Hollywood movies. Who is someone who inspires you and why?

**BONUS!** Make up a song about this person or how they inspire you. Sing it out loud!

**Vocabulary**

**Great Depression:** A name given to the time period from 1929 to the late 1930s, when America’s economy crashed and many people lost their homes, jobs, and savings.

**Conservation:** The planned management of something to prevent damage, neglect, waste, or destruction.