

Multigenre Museum Exhibits for *The Grapes of Wrath*

You are one of the curators at a museum that will feature an exhibit on the Great Depression or the Dust Bowl. Your job is to assemble artifacts and resources that will capture one particular topic from the time period for visitors to the museum.

Introduction

Choose at least one quotation from the novel that connects to the topic of your exhibit. Use this quotation as part of your introduction to the exhibit. You may present your quotation in any format that is appropriate.

Artifacts

Your exhibit should include at least 6 different artifacts that cover at least 4 different genres.

Bibliographical Resources

In addition to the novel, you can use print and online resources in addition to any other reference material.

Curator Notes

For your quotation from the novel and for each artifact in your exhibit, write an explanation that explains background on the piece, its source, and its significance. Your notes will be included in the Exhibition Catalog.



“Drought refugee family from McAlester, Oklahoma. Arrived in California October,” photographed by Dorothea Lange. Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, FSA-OWI Collection, [LC-USF34-009870-E DLC]

Sample Topics

Jalopies
Setting
Route 66
Woody Guthrie
Sears Catalogue and other Catalogues
Woolworth
General Store
Music of the 1930s–1940s
WPA
Clothing of the 1930s–1940s
Dustbowl
Okies

Hoovervilles
Weedpatch (Arvin Federal Govt. Camp)
Truckstops and Cafes on Route 66
Migrant Workers
Farming in California
Care of the Mentally Handicapped
Recipes of the 1930s–1940s
Community Associations within the
Camps (formal and informal)
Entertainment (books, movies, local events)