

# TODAY *in* GEORGIA HISTORY

## February 29, 1940: Gone With The Wind Movie Wins Eight Oscars Daily Activity

### Introduction:

The daily activities created for each of the *Today in Georgia History* segments are designed to meet the Georgia Performance Standards for Reading Across the Curriculum, and Grade Eight: Georgia Studies. For each date, educators can choose from three optional activities differentiated for various levels of student ability. Each activity focuses on engaging the student in context specific vocabulary and improving the student's ability to communicate about historical topics.

One suggestion is to use the *Today in Georgia History* video segments and daily activities as a "bell ringer" at the beginning of each class period. Using the same activity daily provides consistency and structure for the students and may help teachers utilize the first 15-20 minutes of class more effectively.

### Optional Activities:

**Level 1:** Provide the students with the vocabulary list and have them use their textbook, a dictionary, or other teacher provided materials to define each term. After watching the video, have the students write a complete sentence for each of the vocabulary terms. Student created sentences should reflect the meaning of the word based on the context of the video segment. Have students share a sampling of sentences as a way to check for understanding.

**Level 2:** Provide the students with the vocabulary list for that day's segment before watching the video and have them guess the meaning of each word based on their previous knowledge. The teacher may choose to let the students work alone or in groups. After watching the video, have the students revise their definitions to better reflect the meaning of the words based on the context of the video. As a final step, have the students compare and contrast their definitions to their textbook, dictionary or other teacher provided materials definitions.

**Level 3:** Provide the students with the vocabulary list and have them use their textbook, a dictionary, or other teacher provided materials to define each term. After watching the video, have the students write a five sentence paragraph based on the provided writing prompts.

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Vocabulary/Writing Prompts:

**Vocabulary Terms**

Producer  
Bombed  
Mammoth  
Conducted  
Screen Tests  
Partial Interest  
Chaos  
Screenplay  
Nominated

**Writing Prompts**

1. In a five-sentence paragraph use details from the video segment to support the argument that the creation of the movie *Gone With The Wind* was a mammoth undertaking.
2. In a five-sentence paragraph discuss at least three qualities you think a movie should have in order to win an Oscar.
3. In the video segment you learned that the producer thought that most Civil War movies did not do well. In a five-sentence paragraph explain why movies about war might not do well at the box office during difficult times like the great depression.

Related Georgia Performance Standards:

**Reading Across the Curriculum (Grades 6-12)**

**SSRC1 Students will enhance reading in all curriculum areas by:**

- c. Building vocabulary knowledge
  - Demonstrate an understanding of contextual vocabulary in various subjects.
  - Use content vocabulary in writing and speaking.
  - Explore understanding of new words found in subject area texts.
- d. Establishing context
  - Explore life experiences related to subject area content.
  - Discuss in both writing and speaking how certain words are subject area related.
  - Determine strategies for finding content and contextual meaning for unknown words.

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**Common Core, College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Writing**

Text Types and Purposes

1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

**National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies**

**Theme 1: Culture**

**Grade 8 Georgia Studies**

**SS8H8 The student will analyze the important events that occurred after World War I and their impact on Georgia.**

- a. Describe the impact of the boll weevil and drought on Georgia.
- b. Explain economic factors that resulted in the Great Depression.
- c. Discuss the impact of the political career of Eugene Talmadge.
- d. Discuss the effect of the New Deal in terms of the impact of the Civilian Conservation Corps, Agricultural Adjustment Act, rural electrification, and Social Security.

**Grade Five United State History since 1860**

**SS5H5 The student will explain how the Great Depression and New Deal affected the lives of millions of Americans.**

- a. Discuss the Stock Market Crash of 1929, Herbert Hoover, Franklin Roosevelt, the Dust Bowl, and soup kitchens.
- b. Analyze the main features of the New Deal; include the significance of the Civilian Conservation Corps, the Works Progress Administration, and the Tennessee Valley Authority.
- c. Discuss important cultural elements of the 1930s; include Duke Ellington, Margaret Mitchell, and Jesse Owens.