



## Cultural and Social Changes

### – T.V. Dinner and Rock Around the Clock

#### Suggested Fun Facts and Activities for Placemat

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Rocking Around the Clock: A Look at Canadian Culture in the 1950s and 1960s

- Include a word search using the following words
  - Baby boom
  - Barbie
  - Counter-culture
  - Hippies
  - Hula hoop
  - Political unrest
  - Rock 'n roll
  - Social unrest
  - Suburbia
  - Teenagers
  - Television
  - Urban sprawl
- Include pictures of some “fads” from the time period, such as phone booth stuffing, poodle hairstyles
- Include pictures of 1950s and 1960s fashions (poodle skirts and saddle shoes vs miniskirts, hippie styles, greasers, etc). Have students “spot the differences”.

- Include a picture of a suburb with the following information:  
Welcome to Suburbia!  
Most suburban families have 4-5 children, a car and attended church weekly. List the places that people living in suburbs routinely visited.
- Include some “Fun Facts” like the following:
  - “Kraft Television Theatre” begins in 1950s
  - Outdoor barbecuing in summer; “oven barbecuing” in winter popular in 1950s
  - 1953 Vitamin A added to margarine; Vitamin D added to milk
  - 1956 Colonel Sander’s Kentucky Fried Chicken
  - 1964 Chicken parts sales soar
  - 1965 Pillsbury’s “Poppin’ Fresh” Dough Boy
- Include a picture of a car from the time period
- Include multiple choice questions about the time period such as the following:
  1. All of the following are true regarding television during the 1950s EXCEPT:
    - a) it altered eating habits with the appearance of TV trays and frozen TV dinners.
    - b) it was noted for its "earthiness" and extreme violence.
    - c) it is revered as a classic period in programming--a "golden age of television."
    - d) it relied heavily on programming that included the variety show and live drama.
  2. The first popular sitcom was
    - a) The Honeymooners
    - b) Laverne and Shirley
    - c) I Love Lucy
  3. The first popular kids’ program was
    - a) Sesame Street
    - b) The Howdy Doody Show
    - c) Mr. Roger’s Neighbourhood
  4. All of the following were reasons why a consumer culture appeared in the 1950s EXCEPT:
    - a) the creation of credit cards and easy payments plans.
    - b) an increased ability of advertisers to create demand for new products.
    - c) the appearance of new products.
    - d) a considerable drop in prices.
  5. The young Canadian singing sensation of the 1950s who had a worldwide hit with his song “Diana” was
    - a) Elvis Presley
    - b) Paul Anka
    - c) Frank Sinatra

6. The style of clothing popular in the mid- to late 1950s was
  - a) leisure suits and platform shoes
  - b) poodle skirts and saddle shoes
  - c) bell bottoms and tire-tread sandals
  
7. The new hairstyle for women in 1960 was
  - a) long hair, ironed straight
  - b) large fluffy curls
  - c) the "beehive"
  
8. One of the first important waves in rock music in the 1960s was something called the "British Invasion," which started in 1964. A band that was part of this wave was:
  - a) The Supremes
  - b) The Beatles
  - c) The Doors
  - d) The Grateful Dead
  
9. Which of the following was NOT part of the 1960's counter-culture?
  - a) The antiwar movement
  - b) The civil rights movement
  - c) The students' movement
  - d) Women's liberation
  - e) All of the above contributed.
  
10. The counter-culture of the 1960s promoted all of the following EXCEPT:
  - a) tolerant attitudes regarding sexual morality.
  - b) desires for greater self-fulfillment.
  - c) a new emphasis on religion.
  - d) the questioning of government and other authority
  
- Include matching activity where students match the slang with the meaning

### **Slang of the 1950s**

- |               |                                 |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| ___ actor     | 1. No fun at all                |
| ___ big daddy | 2. Get you upset                |
| ___ blast     | 3. Hip person                   |
| ___ bread     | 4. Show-off                     |
| ___ cat       | 5. Fist in the face             |
| ___ cloud 9   | 6. Badly damage                 |
| ___ cookin'   | 7. Clothes                      |
| ___ cool it   | 8. Older person                 |
| ___ cranked   | 9. Relax                        |
| ___ cream     | 10. Getting really excited      |
| ___ cut out   | 11. Telephone                   |
| ___ dig       | 12. Tattle or inform on someone |
| ___ dolly     | 13. Exceptional                 |
| ___ flat out  | 14. Good time                   |
| ___ flick     | 15. Leave                       |

___ frosted	16. Cool, in the know
___ going ape	17. Angry
___ hang out	18. Movie
___ heat	19. Doing very well
___ hip	20. Home
___ horn	21. Fast as you can
___ knuckle sandwich	22. Real cute young girl
___ kookie	23. Police
___ made in the shade	24. Nuts (in a nice way)
___ no sweat	25. Guaranteed success
___ pad	26. Money
___ party pooper	27. Do very little
___ rattle your cage	28. No problem
___ sing	29. Really happy
___ split	30. Understand
___ threads	31. Excited
___ unreal	32. Leave

### **Slang of the 1960s**

___ book	1. Anyone in a position of authority
___ boss	2. Leave the area
___ brewski	3. Leaving the scene
___ bummed out	4. The police (also "pig")
___ burn rubber	5. Really excited
___ choices	6. Go to sleep, go to bed
___ crash	7. Depressed or upset
___ ditz	8. Great or I agree
___ dude	9. Really cool, with it
___ dudette	10. People who were not cool
___ far out	11. Beer
___ flip flops	12. Overeating
___ flower child	13. To lose control, usually meant in a negative way
___ freak out	14. To have your car spew smoke and get moving really fast
___ fuzz	15. Another name for a hippie
___ groovy	16. Your mom, later the woman you were living with or married to
___ happening	17. A girl
___ old man	18. Really cool
___ old lady	19. A guy
___ outta sight	20. A major insult, like you were anything but cool; a jerk
___ pig out	21. Really cool
___ right on	22. A person who was stupid, but in a funny way
___ righteous	23. Your dad, later the man you were living with or married to
___ shades	24. Super cheap shoes
___ shotgun	25. Wonderful and very up-to-date

\_\_\_ spaz  
\_\_\_ split  
\_\_\_ squares  
\_\_\_ stoked  
\_\_\_ The Man

26. You agree, but in a cool way  
27. Sunglasses  
28. A girl  
29. Really cool  
30. Front passenger seat in a car