



Fighting for Equality at Work: Why Unions Matter

GWG: Piece by Piece – A Resource for Alberta Teachers

**Explores the
importance of fair and
equitable workplaces
and the positive
impact of unions.**

Projects and lessons:

GWG: Piece by Piece
A 60-minute video ballad of 11 Maria Dunn songs and video footage of women who worked at GWG.

Interpreting the Stories of the Women of GWG – Readers Theatre

Grades 4, 5 or 7 students encounter themes of immigrant women's experiences, industrialization, factory conditions and fairness as they interpret song lyrics from GWG: Piece by Piece using choral speaking strategies.

The Chocolate Bar War: Story Approach

Grade 4 and 5 students explore the concept of fairness by comparing and contrasting kids' experiences of rising prices for chocolate bars with the experiences of women at the GWG factory dealing with their working conditions.

A Snapshot of Immigrant Life in Western Canada: Project- based Learning

As grade 5 students listen and watch the GWG video ballads, they will better understand the struggles and successes of immigrant women to Alberta and Canada. Students will create their own digital story.

Let's Make Blue Jeans – A Factory Line Simulation

By engaging in a blue jean factory simulation, Grade 7 students will better understand work on assembly lines.

Taking Collective Action: A Simulation Activity

Grade 9 social studies students participate in a collective bargaining simulation designed to help them better understand the process used to achieve fair wages and better working conditions.

The Stories Behind Our Clothes: Project-Based Learning

Social Studies 10 students will have the opportunity to explore aspects of the garment industry in Canada and globally to develop a better understanding of the production of clothing. They will create a digital story to demonstrate their understanding.

Great Western Garment Factory: Collectivism in Action

Social Studies 30 students identify 6 principles of collectivism. This lesson applies these principles to milestones and progress made by the GWG local in achieving better conditions and wages from its inception to closing in 2004.



**These teaching resources and more
information are available at: www.afle.ca**