

Learning Targets

- Expand knowledge of a subject with primary and secondary sources.
- Investigate for evidence of Transcendentalism’s relevance to American life.

Transcendentalism

1. To deepen your understanding of Transcendentalism, you will work with group members to create a poster depicting Transcendentalism’s key beliefs. Consider the framing questions below, but you may revise, cut, or add to the list of questions based on your initial work with Emerson and Thoreau.
2. Research to answer the following questions regarding the Transcendentalists:
 - What is their view of God?
 - What are their values?
 - How do they define truth?
 - Do they have an optimistic or pessimistic view of life?
 - What are their views of work and worldly success?
 - What is their view of society?
 - Who is their authority?
 - What is their view of education?
 - Do they view man as inherently good, evil, or somewhere in between?
3. Be sure to compile a list of your resources and sources, both for specific quotes and for general ideas. Use a graphic organizer like the one below to collect your information. Each member should use a different source, and all sources should be credible.

LEARNING STRATEGIES:

Think-Pair-Share, Close Reading, Marking the Text, Summarizing, Paraphrasing

My Notes

Source Information/Citation:	Interpretation:	Connections:
<i>Record pertinent information and include page numbers. Be sure to use quotation marks if using a direct quote.</i>	<i>Question and comment on the facts presented. Imagine the people, the situation, and the events surrounding the research facts.</i>	<i>Consider possible contemporary texts that express or link to the ideas presented in this source.</i>

Check Your Understanding

4. As a group, construct a poster synthesizing your research.
 - Incorporate common information into your poster.
 - Find specific quotes from sources that best articulate this information.
 - Add visuals to help express the basic beliefs of Transcendentalism.
 - Compare your information. Revise your definition of Transcendentalism to reflect your research and information sharing with peers.