**Introduction:** Students will compare and contrast the Homestead from its creation to present day. They will write critical essays based on primary documents of why they believe the area has changed.

**Learning Goals:** Students will
- Understand the history, including the physical and social development of their hometown.
- Learn about the evolution of the Steel Valley (greater Pittsburgh area) by comparing/contrasting changes that have occurred over time.

**Guiding Essential Question:**
After reading and analyzing various primary and secondary sources, why has the Steel Valley area become what it has today?

**Duration:** 6, 42 minute class periods: including at least 2 periods in the computer lab.

**Grade(s):** 6-8

**Subject:** Social Studies

**PA Common Core standards:**
- CC.8.5.6-8.G Integrate Information with other information in print and digital text.

**Preparation (materials & resources):**
Materials include books, pictures, computers, software, and instructional aides.


Instructional Procedures:

1. Students will be introduced to the early days of the formation of Homestead through photos and readings.

2. Students will analyze an early print from the LOC and identify areas of Homestead.

3. Students will read several articles describing Homestead during its early days.

4. Students will use Google Maps to find current photos of Homestead and compare and contrast them to early photos and prints.

5. Students will write a critical analysis of why they feel that areas of the town had changed.