Exploring Ellis Island

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/immigration/tour/>

Directions:

You are going to go to the website above and “tour” Ellis Island just as an immigrant would have 100 years ago. There are 10 stops along the way through from the time your boat reaches the harbor till you see your family outside of the detention center.

Read each step including the “Did you know?” sections. Look at the photos. We will listen to the stories and watch the videos as a class. For each stop, you will have a couple of questions to answer.

1. Passage
   1. Where did most Ellis Island immigrants come from?
   2. How long was the typical voyage across the Atlantic Ocean?
   3. What were the 3 classes on the ship? Which one had the most immigrants?
   4. How did steamships impact immigration?
2. Arrival
   1. What was the 1st thing that happened when the ship came into the harbor?

To 1st and 2nd class passengers?

To 3rd (steerage) passengers?

* 1. What were the conditions on the ship during the journey?
  2. Who was the 1st Ellis Island Immigrant?

1. Baggage Room
   1. What did steerage immigrants bring with them from home?
   2. What happened in the baggage room?
2. Stairs to Registry Room
   1. What did the doctors do while people filed in?
   2. What was the highest number of immigrants to pass through in one day?
3. Registry Room
   1. What happened here?
   2. What did doctors check?
   3. Why weren’t women allowed into the country alone before WWII?
   4. What would have happened to YOU after 1907 if you were traveling alone (and under 16)?
4. Medical Exam
   1. What were the different chalk marks for?
   2. What happened to you if you had a disease?
5. Legal Exam
   1. What were some of the 29 questions they would ask at this step?
6. Detainees
   1. Why would you be detained?
   2. Why was Ellis Island called the Isle of Hope and the Isle of Tears?
   3. What happened to you if you were detained?
   4. What happened to you if you were turned away?
7. Stairs of Separation
   1. How many aisles were there and how were they divided?
8. What was the Kissing Post?