

Resource Sheet# 19

Student Background Paragraph

In What Ways Were Women's Contributions in Industries Valued Before, During, and After World War II?

The Second World War brought significant changes to the American labor market. With men fighting overseas, women assumed jobs in wartime industries – much of it in heavy industry. In addition to outside work, women's responsibilities in the home increased. In this History Lab, students will investigate primary source materials, including cartoons, statistics, interviews, and government documents to develop an understanding of women's experiences on the home front during the war. In doing so, students will consider the extent to which women's work was valued by the greater society, as well as what this work meant to women themselves.