WINDOWS NOTES TEACHER'S GUIDE

Describe the progressive movement.	Describe the labor movement in Oklahoma.
Across the country, and in Oklahoma, the progressive movement took shape in response to the rapid industrialization of the American economy during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. With increasing industrialization, Americans became concerned with issues stemming from the power that was acquired by large corporations, such as the spread of poverty and the mistreatment of workers. To combat these issues, progressives sought to use the power of the national government to ensure that the rights and power of the people were protected against the growing power and interests of big business.	The labor movement in Oklahoma started with groups such as miners, railway workers, and farmers, who organized themselves into labor unions to better advocate for reforms they thought would protect their rights as workers. For example, mine workers formed the United Mine Workers of America to fight for better working conditions such as shorter hours and better wages. Farmers did the same thing by forming the Oklahoma Farmers' Union to fight for the rights of farmers in response to the actions of large agricultural corporations.
Explain how the labor movement relates to the progressive movement.	**Explain how the labor and progressive movements influenced Oklahoma's constitution.**
The labor movement grew out of the progressive movement. The labor movement was part of the progressive movement in the sense that labor unions formed to protect the rights of workers. Labor unions used their collective power to limit the power of big businesses. The work of labor unions furthered the broader goals of the progressive movement.	The labor unions in Oklahoma, as part of the progressive movement, used their growing power to influence territory politics. This included the creation of the Oklahoma State Constitution. The territory's major unions banded together to release The Shawnee Demands, a list of provisions they hoped would be written into the constitution. These provisions, which sought to protect the rights of workers, gave more political power directly to the people and limited the power of big businesses within the state. The provisions were largely accepted during the constitutional convention, which made Oklahoma's new Constitution one of the most progressive in the nation.