

## COMPARE AND CONTRAST

# Two Tough Eras

In this issue, "Moving Ahead" uses one family's story to explore the economic problems the U.S. is experiencing. How does the current "Great Recession"

compare with the Great Depression of the 1930s? Use details from the story to complete this chart and compare and contrast the two crises.

DETAIL	GREAT DEPRESSION	"GREAT RECESSION"
<b>Starting point</b> When did the problem begin?	The Depression hit the U.S. hard in the 1930s.	[See p. 6.]
<b>Unemployment</b> How many Americans were/are out of work?	One in every four Americans was unemployed.	[See p. 7.]
<b>Teen troubles</b> How were/are teens affected by the problem?	Many kids left school to help support their families.	[See p. 7.]
<b>Lost homes</b> How many properties were/are lost to foreclosure in one year?	About 2.4 million foreclosures occurred in 1932.	[See p. 9.]
<b>Savings</b> How much did/do Americans save?	Savings rates dropped to -1.5 percent. Not only did Americans not save; they used up existing savings and went deeply into debt.	[See p. 9.]
<b>Emotional impact</b> How did/does the problem affect Americans' mental health?	Many Americans were depressed and anxious.	[See pp. 7-8.]
<b>Exit plan</b> What actions did/does the U.S. President take to try to bring the nation out of the crisis?	President Franklin D. Roosevelt launched a program called the New Deal. It aided to farmers, reformed banks, and created jobs, among other things.	[See p. 8.]