

# Community of Workers

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## Materials needed:

- Paper
- Pencil

It took many people with lots of different skills to build Liberty ships. Thousands of people flocked to Brunswick, Georgia, and joined the shipyard workforce to meet the increasing demands of wartime production – and earn high defense industry wages. While some workers came from other areas of the country, eighty percent were from towns throughout Georgia, especially farming communities. The demand for labor also provided job opportunities for women and African Americans. Though lacking experience in shipbuilding, new employees were often put to work after only a few days of training. The shipyard soon became known for its committed workforce and effective management, consistently winning awards for outstanding production and safety.



To understand how the impact of Liberty ships in the local community, you can:

## Activity 1

- Read all the different jobs it took to build a Liberty ship in the picture above.
- After looking at the jobs and researching what those people did on a Liberty ship, choose a job that you could do and write it down.

## Activity 2

- Explain how your job helps the ship and what would happen to the Liberty ship if your job was not completed.

## Activity 3

- What impact do you think all of these new jobs had on the town of Brunswick? Don't forget, the United States was still recovering from the Great Depression as World War II started.