

## Better Living in Chicago

CCSSR1: Read closely, then make logical inferences.

CCSSR2: Summarize a passage, then identify the central idea.

### How can one person make city progress?

#### *Chicago's Reformer*

Reform means to make things better. Jane Addams saw things in Chicago to reform. She saw poor people living in crowded neighborhoods. The houses were small and did not have enough rooms for all of the people who lived in them. The streets were dirty. People did not have places to get clean water. They did not have places to wash. Jane Addams wanted to help poor people have a better life in the city. She believed that helping poor people would make everyone's life better.

In 1889 Jane Addams set up a place to help people. She called it Hull-House. Hull-House was a settlement house. It helped immigrants to Chicago. Immigrants are people who move to a new country. The immigrants needed to find homes. They needed to learn English. They needed to learn about the city. Jane Addams wanted to give them the skills they needed to live well on their own.

In 1893, four years after Jane Addams opened Hull-House, there was a depression. That means a lot of people lost their jobs. The people who lost their jobs needed even more help. Each week thousands of people came to Hull-House for help. They all got help.

Jane Addams had more than one idea about how to help the people of Chicago. One thing she did was to live in the same community where the poor people lived. This helped her to understand their problems. She listened to them and helped them work together to change things in their neighborhood. She was one of Chicago's first community organizers.

Another thing Jane Addams did was talk to Chicago's leaders. Jane Addams was a powerful woman. She knew the Mayor. She talked to him and the other leaders about the problems of the poor people. Sometimes the leaders listened and sometimes they did not. But she kept trying. She made changes. She made the schools better. She helped to create playgrounds. She made people's jobs safer. She fought for people to get better pay. She even became the Garbage Inspector in her ward so she could help clean up the neighborhood.

Jane Addams worked with many other people to help families. She helped neighborhoods. She became famous around the world for her hard work. She won a Nobel Peace Prize. That is a very important honor. Jane Addams left Chicago an important legacy. Hull-House is still in Chicago today. It still helps people make progress.

### Think Clearly

- *What is a choice someone makes in this history? What are effects of that choice?*
- *What is the most important event? Why do you think it is most important?*
- *What is the main idea of this passage?*
- *Underline five sentences in the passage that support that idea.*

### Write What You Think

How did Jane Addams solve problems?

What is a problem people in Chicago have today?

How should people solve it?