

## **Georgia Stories II**

### **Video 3**

#### **Program 11: The Rise of Modern Georgia, Part 1**

#### **Story 1: The Rural Electrification Administration**

##### **Do You Remember?**

1. About how long after Atlanta received electricity did it arrive in rural areas?
2. Why didn't the electric companies want to provide electricity to the rural areas?
3. About how many rural households had electricity before 1940?
4. What were some common needs of rural families that had to be provided without electricity?
5. What was the name of the bathroom facility before indoor plumbing? What made its use at night unpleasant, especially for children?
6. What did people do at night for entertainment?
7. Who was president when the REA started? What does REA mean?
8. What did a membership in an electric cooperative cost?
9. How did electricity change life in the home? On the farm?
10. What was "lost" because of the introduction of electricity to rural Georgia?
11. Fifty years after the introduction of electricity, what percent of rural areas had it?

##### **What Do You Think?**

12. What do you think was the single electrical item that made the biggest difference in the lives of people in rural areas?

##### **Want to Learn More?**

13. Ask an older family member or neighbor what life was like without electricity.

### Answers to Video 3, Program 11, Story 1

1. over 40 years
2. It was too expensive to run the lines because the homes were too far apart. Also, the companies thought that the poor families would not be able to afford the electric bill.
3. about 3 in 100 households
4. for light; for heat for hot water, cooking, and warmth; for pumping water; for operating refrigeration equipment and other power equipment; etc.
5. the outhouse; it was cold, dark, and sometimes scary
6. spent quiet time together, read, did homework, etc.
7. Franklin D. Roosevelt; Rural Electrification Administration
8. \$5
9. Families now had electric stoves, electric lights, washing machines, water inside, indoor plumbing, and electric appliances; the farmer now had refrigeration equipment for the dairy, machines to make work easier, electric lights to get better egg production, etc.
10. the experience of children working closely with their parents in tasks that had to be done by hand and without electricity
11. over 99 percent
12. Answers will vary.
13. Check student responses.