

## **PLAY THE DATES (For Beginners)**

Learn the Years that Important Events in U.S. History Occurred

**Number of Players on Each Team/Length of the Match:** Each team may have 1, 2, or 3 players. The teams decide on the length of the match, i.e., how many games a team must win to win the match, ranging from 1 win to 10 wins.

### **For each game:**

**Cards Used:** Silver Timeline Cards (alternate after each game which Silver Timeline Cards deck is used (1900s-2000s deck for the first game, 1800s deck for the second game, 1400s-1700s deck for the third game, and then continue with that cycle until the match ends)

**Overview and Objective:** For each game, the teams play 10 tricks. A “trick” is when each team plays one Silver Timeline Card from its hand. The “lead team” for each trick is the team that plays its card first. The “non-leading team” for each trick is the team that plays its card second. Each team tries to win as many tricks as it can.

**Determining the lead team for each trick:** The teams should alternate which team is the lead team for the first trick of a game (for the first game, use rock, paper, scissors or another method to determine which team will be the lead team for the first trick). For each trick other than the first trick of a game, whichever team wins the trick is the lead team for the next trick.

**Step 1:** Deal 10 Silver Timeline Cards to each team face-down. The teams may look at their cards.

### **Step 2:** Game Play

- For each trick, the lead team (1) plays a card face-up, (2) reads the blue fact from the top box of that card, and (3) states whether the teams are playing “earliest” or “latest” on the trick.
- The non-leading team then plays a card face-up and reads the blue fact from the top box of that card.
- For each trick in which the lead team states that the teams are playing “earliest”, whichever team plays the earlier year wins the trick.
- For each trick in which the lead team states that the teams are playing “latest”, whichever team plays the later year wins the trick.
- If both teams play the same year on a trick, the non-leading team wins the trick.
- The year played by a team on a trick is the year that the blue fact in the top box of the card it played occurred (the year can be found in blue in the top row of years at the bottom of the card)

**Determining Who Wins a Game:** The first team to win 6 tricks wins the game. If both teams win 5 tricks, whichever team wins the last trick wins the game. If a team wins 6 tricks before all the tricks have been played, there is no need to play the final tricks for the game.

**Optional Change When You're Ready to Make the Game Even More Challenging:** Have the lead team on each trick play its card face-down