**Education in the early 1800’s**

* Education was obtained by the wealthy -- poor families needed their children to help with the daily responsibilities and chores on their farms
* Most children were educated in their homes by highly-educated, private tutors (this cost a TON of money)
* Before government-funded schools, most education of poor children was done through “charity schools” (usually operated by local churches)
* “Grammar” schools had the specific purpose of teaching grammar and basic math (so students could run farms/businesses and be able to keep their own financial records)
* Schools were very strict and taught strict moral behavior
* Discipline included corporal punishment and humiliation
* Schools were overcrowded and usually only had one teacher to teach up to 60 students of all grade-levels
* Most formal education ended in the 8th grade
* Teachers were poorly trained and poorly paid
* For the most part, only boys obtained a high school/college education
* White children (with very few exceptions) were the only ones offered an education