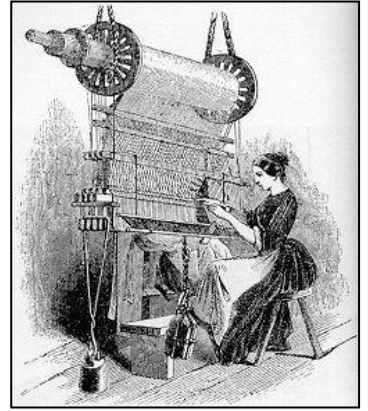


The Role of Women in the Industrial Revolution **Background Information Worksheet**



1. What were some of the factors (pushes and pulls) that may have influenced Barilla and women like her to leave their family farms and go to work in Lowell's mills?
2. If you were 15 years old in 1843, which of these factors would have compelled you to go to Lowell?
3. How did women transform their lives with the opportunities they had living in Lowell and earning their own money?
4. How did women's new role in an industrialized society challenge the existing, traditional gender roles?
5. Why did some of the women become dissatisfied with their lives and work in Lowell, with some even deciding to leave?
6. What effect do you think a constant coming-and-going of female workers might have had on the work force in Lowell's mills?