

Section 1 Bugsy Malone

A **slapstick** musical comedy, Bugsy Malone follows the rivalry between two half-witted street gangs. In this film noir **spoof**, the message is one of good, clean fun; the characters are wonderful exaggerated **cartoons**; and the weapons of choice are "splurge" whip cream guns, flour bombs, and custard pies.



Section 2 Key terms

City-slicker	Someone accustomed to a city or urban lifestyle and unsuited to life in the country.
Hoodlums	A thug , usually in a group or a gang of misfits who are associated with crime or theft.
Molls	A gun moll or gangster moll or gangster's moll is the female companion of a male professional criminal.
Bootlegger	A person who makes or sells alcoholic liquor illegally .



Section 3 The Wall street crash and the Great Depression

During the 1920s many people **invested** their money in **stocks** (shares of ownership in companies). For a few years the value of stocks rose rapidly. In September 1929, however, stock prices began to fall. In October they "**crashed**." This meant that people's stocks were now worth almost nothing. Many people lost all the money they had. Many banks failed because crowds of people tried to take out all their money at once. When a bank failed, people with accounts there lost their savings.

By 1932 about 12 to 13 million people were **out of work**. People with jobs were paid only about **half** of what they had earned before.