



The Civil Rights Movement

Research Project

Lesson Plan for Teachers:

OBJECTIVE: *To become familiar with significant events in the Civil Rights Movement and their effects on North Carolina:*

1. Students will develop a basic understanding of, and be able to define specific terms;
 2. Students will be able to make correlations between the struggle for civil rights nationally and in North Carolina;
 3. Students will be able to analyze the causes and predict solutions for problems directly related to discriminatory practices.
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Social Studies Objectives: 3.04, 4.01, 4.03, 4.04, 4.05, 5.03, 6.04, 7.02, 8.01, 8.03, 9.01, 9.02, 9.03

Social Studies Skills: 1, 2, 3

Language Arts Objectives: 1.03, 1.04, 2.01, 5.01, 6.01, 6.02

Resources / Materials / Preparations

- Time line
- Media Center and/or Internet access for student research.
- This research project will take two or three class periods for the introduction and discussion of the time line and to work on the definitions. The research project can be assigned over a two- or three-week period.

Procedures

- Students will read the introduction and time line of the Civil Rights Movement independently, as a small group or as a whole class.
- Students will complete the research project independently, as a small group or as a whole class.
- Discussion and extensions follow as directed by the teacher.

Evaluation

- Student participation in reading and discussion of the time line.
- Student performance on the research project.

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Research Project

Introduction

It is natural that one may mistakenly associate the beginning of the Civil Rights Movement with the success of the *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas* (1954) decision of the Supreme Court. However, if civil rights are to be defined as those privileges and responsibilities afforded all individuals governed by a Democratic system, then we must begin our investigation with the Antebellum Period.

The years before the formation of the Union and the beginning of the Civil War are considered to be the Antebellum. During this time, slavery existed in the South.

A slave is described as someone who is subject to the will of another person for his or her entire life, without the benefit of legal recourse.

The ability of free African Americans to express themselves depended heavily on their geographical location. African Americans in the North, while still being treated as second-class citizens, usually had the opportunity to speak out against acts of discrimination and prejudice.

Free African Americans in the South constantly lived under the shadow of slavery and dared not to speak out against it because their positions were far too fragile to test the tolerance of slave holders. A very few free African Americans owned slaves themselves. They primarily purchased relatives who were later manumitted.

Free African Americans like Richard Allen (first bishop of the A.M.E. Church), Fredrick Douglass (former slave, abolitionist, author and civil rights activist), Sojourner Truth, and Prince Hall (father of Free Black

Masonry) earned national, as well as, international praise by writing, speaking, organizing, and working on the behalf of their enslaved compatriots.

Thousands of freed African Americans, with the aid of compassionate whites and the American Colonization Society, colonized what eventually became Liberia. The vast majority of freed African Americans felt as though they were Americans and channeled their energy into achieving equality within the United States.

Time Line

1715

North Carolina gives statutory recognition to slavery.

1770

March 5: Boston Massacre

1774

September 5: First Continental Congress convenes

1775

April 18: American Revolution begins

1775

May 10: Second Continental Congress convenes

1776

July 4: Declaration of Independence signed

1776

December 20: Third Continental Congress convenes

1777

November 15: Articles of Confederation proposed

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1781

March 1: Articles of Confederation ratified

1784

January 14: Revolutionary War Ends
(Treaty of Paris)

1787

May 25: Constitutional Convention begins

June 11: Roger Sherman proposes the Great Compromise. To balance representation, Sherman suggested that Congress have two houses, or sections, like the Parliament did in Great Britain. One house would have an equal number of representatives from each state, no matter the size of the state's population. This pleased the small states. In the other house, representation would be based upon the population of each state. This pleased the large states.

The number of representatives a state has in the House of Representatives is based upon population. The states that did not allow slavery, or that were in the process of ending slavery, did not want to count slaves for this purpose. The compromise allowed slaveholding states to count three fifths of the population of people who were slaves and all of the population of free individuals for the purpose of representation in Congress. Native Americans were not counted at all. This agreement became known as the Three-Fifths Compromise. Citizens of slaveholding states would pay taxes on three fifths of enslaved people as well as on land they owned.

August 21: Debate begins on slavery in the Constitution. The Fugitive Slave Compromise allowed slave-owners to hunt down African Americans who were fugitives and return them to slavery. The delegates agreed to the Slave Trade Compromise. To prevent a strong Congress from ending the slave trade, the Constitution stated that such a law could not be passed by Congress for twenty years, which would be 1807. Slavery was also recognized as a state practice, and the federal government did not have any say

about it other than dealing with runaway slaves and the slave trade.

September 12 - Inclusion of a Bill of Rights in the Constitution is debated.

September 17 - Final draft of the Constitution is sent to Congress

1788

June 21 - Constitution ratified

1789

April 30 - George Washington becomes president
September 25 - Amendments 1 through 10 and the amendment that becomes the Twenty-seventh Amendment are proposed

November 21 - North Carolina is the twelfth state to ratify the Constitution

1791

December 15 - Amendments 1 through 10 are ratified, becoming the Bill of Rights

1820

Missouri Compromise: Congress agreed to bring Missouri into the Union as a slave state, and Maine, which had been part of Massachusetts, would enter as a free state. Congress also was firm in saying that slavery would be allowed in lands south and southwest of Missouri but not in the area north of it. The balance between slave and free states was preserved because there were now twelve free states and twelve slave states in the Union.

1845

Frederick Douglass publishes his "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass."

1849

Harriet Tubman becomes a runaway slave and becomes one of the most successful "Conductors" of the Underground Railroad.

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1850

Congress passed the Fugitive Slave Law. Any federal marshal who did not arrest an alleged runaway slave could be fined \$1,000. People suspected of being runaway slaves could be arrested without warrant and turned over to someone who claimed to be his or her owner on nothing more than that person's sworn testimony of ownership. A suspected runaway slave could not ask for a jury trial nor testify on his or her own behalf. Any person aiding a runaway slave by providing shelter, food or any other form of assistance faced up to six months' imprisonment and/or a \$1,000 fine. Those officers capturing a fugitive slave were entitled to be paid a fee. This encouraged some officers to kidnap free African Americans and sell them to slave-owners.

1852

A young white woman living in Ohio, Harriet Beecher Stowe, published *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which described the evils of slavery and became a best-seller in the North and around the world. Slaveholders criticized her book, saying that she had wrongly described slavery. When Stowe later met President Lincoln, he greeted her by saying, "So you are the little woman who started this big war!"

1854

May 30 - The Kansas-Nebraska Act allowed residents there to vote on whether they wanted to be a slave state or a free state. People who wanted slavery and those against it rushed to Kansas, leading to a bloody civil war in the territory. So many people were killed, the area became known as Bleeding Kansas.

1857

In *Dred Scott v. Sanford* (1857), the Supreme Court voted six to two that Dred Scott, a slave who had been taken by his master from Missouri to the free state of Illinois and then on to Wisconsin Territory, was still the property of his owner. Abolitionists had argued that because Scott had lived in a state and territory where slavery was illegal, this made him a free man. The court decided, however, that the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution made the Missouri Compromise and Congress' other compromises illegal. The Fifth Amendment says that no person can be deprived of "life, liberty, or property without the due process of law." Because Scott was considered the property of his owner, Congress did not have the power to exclude slavery from the territories or the states.

1859

October 16 - John Brown, a white abolitionist, planned to start a slave rebellion in Harpers Ferry, Virginia, by seizing the federal armory there and arming slaves. Brown and twenty-one men—five African Americans, including Dangerfield Newby, who hoped to rescue his wife from slavery, and sixteen whites, two of whom were Brown's sons, were either killed in the raid or caught and hanged for treason.

1861

After the election of Abraham Lincoln in November, 1860, seven states seceded from the Union: South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas. Representatives from these states quickly established a new political organization, the Confederate States of America.

February 8 - The Confederate States of America adopted a constitution and ten days later elected Jefferson Davis as its president. Montgomery, Alabama, became its capital and the Stars and Bars was adopted as its flag.

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When President James Buchanan – Lincoln’s predecessor – refused to surrender federal forts in the South to the seceding states in February, Southern troops seized the forts. At Fort Sumter, South Carolina, troops forced a federal supply ship to return to New York, its supplies undelivered to the forces based in the fort.

March 4 - At Lincoln’s inauguration, the new president said he had no plans to end slavery in those states where it already existed, but he also said he would not accept secession. He hoped to resolve the national crisis without warfare.

April - When President Lincoln told authorities in South Carolina that he planned to send supplies to Fort Sumter, South Carolina thought that Lincoln was trying to trick them. South Carolina demanded that the commander of the fort surrender immediately. The commander offered to surrender only after he and his forces had exhausted their supplies. South Carolina rejected his offer, and on April 12, the Civil War began with shots fired on the fort. Fort Sumter was eventually surrendered to South Carolina.

May 20 - North Carolina votes to secede.

1862

Within weeks of North Carolina’s secession from the Union, the Confederacy established a military presence on Roanoke Island. Confederate defenses there were weak, however, and Union troops under General Ambrose E. Burnside captured the island on February 8, 1862. Hundreds of slaves near the Union occupied areas journeyed there with the hope of obtaining freedom and to live in refugee camps. Following the lead of other Union generals, General Burnside concluded that the former slaves on Roanoke Island should be considered “contraband” of war and granted them the status of freedmen.

1863

President Abraham Lincoln delivers the Emancipation Proclamation.

1865

March 3 - The Freeman’s Bureau was established by Congress to protect the interests of former slaves, including helping them find new employment and improve educational and health facilities. In the year that followed the bureau spent \$17,000,000 establishing 4,000 schools, 100 hospitals and providing homes and food for former slaves.

April 17 - Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston met Union General William T. Sherman under a flag of truce on the Hillsborough Road, seven miles from Durham Station at the farm now called Bennett Place. There, at three separate meetings, the generals negotiated the terms for surrender. On April 26, the largest troop surrender of the Civil War took place there.

Reconstruction begins. Black Codes are established. Carpetbaggers move south.

December 18 - The Thirteenth Amendment, abolishing slavery, is passed.

Sergeant William Carney of the 54th Colored Infantry becomes the first African American to be awarded the Medal of Honor.

1866

May - The first branch of the Ku Klux Klan was established in Pulaski, Tennessee. A year later a general organization of local Klans was established in Nashville in April, 1867. Most of the leaders were former members of the Confederate Army. The first Grand Wizard was Nathan Forrest, a former Civil War general. During the next few years, Klansmen wearing masks and draped in white sheets, tortured and killed African Americans and sympathetic whites. Immigrants, whom Klan members blamed for the election of Radical Republicans, were also targets of their hatred.

The Buffalo Soldiers establish themselves as “Protectors of the West.”

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1875

Birth of Mary McLeod Bethune. Mary McLeod Bethune, educator, government official, and African-American leader, was born on July 10 in Mayesville, North Carolina.

1881

Booker T. Washington established Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

Segregation of public transportation begins. Tennessee segregated railroad cars, followed by several other states, including North Carolina (1899).

1890

African-Americans are disenfranchised. The Mississippi Plan, approved on November 1, used literacy and “understanding” tests to disenfranchise black American citizens. Similar statutes were adopted by North Carolina in 1900.

1896

The Supreme Court decision of *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896) stated that African Americans and whites should be “separate but equal.”

1898

The Spanish-American War. February 15, the USS Maine was sunk. The all-African American 3rd North Carolina Infantry Regiment was formed. The Rough Riders led by future U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt gains fame.

October 20 - North Carolina Mutual and Provident Insurance Company founded by John Merrick and associates in Durham, North Carolina.

November 10 - A race riot occurred in Wilmington, North Carolina, and eight African Americans were killed.

1905

July 11–13 - African-American intellectuals and activists, led by W. E. B. DuBois and William Monroe Trotter, began the Niagara Movement.

1909

February 12 - The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is formed on the centennial of the birth of Lincoln to promote use of the courts to restore the legal rights of African Americans.

North Carolina Central University was chartered as the National Religious Training School and Chautauqua. It opened its doors to students in 1910. Dr. James E. Shepard, the founder, served as the President of the institution from its founding until his death in 1947.

1910

W.E.B. DuBois makes a compassionate and powerful case for the separation of the races.

Segregated neighborhoods are legally established. On December 19, the City Council of Baltimore approved the first city ordinance designating the boundaries of black and white neighborhoods. This ordinance was followed by similar ones in other communities, including Greensboro, North Carolina, and Louisville, Kentucky. The Supreme Court declared the Louisville ordinance to be unconstitutional in 1917.

1917

April 6 - The United States joins the Allies in World War I. There were 370,000 African Americans in military service; more than half of them were in the French war zone.

1922

The House of Representatives passes an anti-lynching bill. Southern senators argue that it unconstitutionally interferes with local and state authority, and the bill dies when the Southern senators resort to a filibuster.

March 9 - Civil rights activist Floyd H. McKissick is born Asheville, North Carolina. A lawyer, newspaper columnist and business executive, McKissick attended Morehouse College, the University of North Carolina, and North Carolina Central University.

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1923

The General Assembly of North Carolina appropriated funds for the purchase and maintenance of the school, which became known as Durham State Normal School. Two years later, the General Assembly redefined the mission of the school, naming it the North Carolina College for Negroes and dedicating it to the offering of liberal arts education and the preparation of teachers and principals of secondary schools. North Carolina College for Negroes (NCC) became the nation's first state-supported liberal arts college for African American students.

1929

January 15 - Martin Luther King, Jr., is born.

1935

Anti-lynching laws debated. Southern Democrats began to block legislation introduced by Northern, liberal Democrats, leading to filibusters against anti-lynching and anti-poll tax bills. Attempts were made to persuade Roosevelt to support the Costigan-Wagner anti-lynching bill in 1935. However, Roosevelt refused to speak out in support of it. He argued that the white voters in the South would never forgive him if he supported the bill and he would therefore lose the next election. The Costigan-Wagner Act received support from many members of Congress but the Southern opposition managed to defeat it.

1935

Charles H. Houston represented the NAACP.

1938

Southerners oppose the 1938 Fair Labor Standards Act that sought to eliminate child labor (widely used in the South) and establish minimum wage and maximum hours for all workers, including African Americans. Southerners also killed the anti-lynching bill in 1938 with a six-week filibuster.

1944

April 17 - King delivers his oration "The Negro and the Constitution" while a sophomore in high school.

April 24 - The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) is founded.

1946

January - The Women's Political Council, an organization for African American women is founded by Mary Fair Banks.

April 1 - The U.S. Supreme Court, in the case *King v. Chapman* (1946) declares the "white primary" to be unconstitutional.

June 3 - In *Irene Morgan v. Commonwealth of Virginia* (1946), the Supreme Court bans segregation in interstate bus travel.

December 6 - President Truman appoints the President's Committee on Civil Rights.

1947

March 12 - King is elected chair of the membership committee of the Atlanta NAACP Youth Council in a meeting on the Morehouse College campus.

April 9 - The Committee on Racial Equality (CORE) and the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) send 16 African-American and white "Freedom Riders" to test compliance with the Supreme Court decision in the *Irene Morgan v. Commonwealth of Virginia* (1946). Twelve arrests are made during the two-week "Journey of Reconciliation."

June 29 - In Washington, D. C., at the Lincoln Memorial, Harry S. Truman became the first President to speak to the conference of the NAACP.

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1948

July 26 - President Truman signs Executive Order 9811, which states, "It is hereby declared to be the policy of the President that there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, color, religion, or national origin." The order also establishes the President's Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services.

1953

February - CORE begins sit-ins in Baltimore, Maryland.

June 19 - African Americans in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, start a bus boycott protesting discrimination.

1954

First white citizens council meeting held on July 11 in Mississippi.

May 7 - *Brown v. Board of Education* decided by the Supreme Court.

1955

December 5 - Montgomery Bus Boycott

1956

January 30 - Home of Martin Luther King Jr. bombed.

February 3 - Autherine Lucy admitted to the University of Alabama

May 27 - Tallahassee Bus Boycott

May 31 - Second *Brown v. Board of Education* case decided.

June 1 - Alabama outlaws the NAACP.

1957

January 10-11 - SCLC (Southern Christian Leadership Conference) founded.

May 17 - Prayer Pilgrimage

Civil Rights Act (1957) established the Civil Rights Section of the Justice Department and empowered federal prosecutors to obtain court injunctions against interference with the right to vote. It also established a federal Civil Rights Commission with authority to investigate discriminatory conditions and recommend corrective measures.

1958

September 20 - Martin Luther King Jr. stabbed in Harlem.

September 29 - *Cooper v. Aaron*

1959

Prince Edwards County, Virginia, abandons segregation.

1960

February 1 - King moves from Montgomery to Atlanta to devote more time to SCLC and the freedom struggle. He becomes assistant pastor to his father at Ebenezer Baptist Church.

In Greensboro, four black freshman of North Carolina A & T University refuse to give up their "white-only" lunch counter seats at the segregated downtown Woolworth store. Ezell Blair, Franklin McCain, Joseph McNeil, and David Richmond ignite a wave of similar demonstrations by southern black college students.

April 15 - The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) is formed at Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina.

May 6 - Civil Rights Act signed

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1961

January 6 - Federal Court orders Hunter and Holmes to be admitted to the University of Alabama.

June 16 - Civil rights organizations meet with U.S. Attorney General Robert Kennedy, the brother of President John F. Kennedy.

The summer of Freedom Riders.

September 27 - ICC desegregation ruling

November - Albany Movement

1962

September 29 - President John F. Kennedy federalizes Mississippi National Guard.

October 2 - Riots on the University of Mississippi ("Ole Miss") Campus.

1963

January 1 - Centennial of Emancipation Proclamation

June 12 - Medgar Evers, Mississippi Civil Rights leader killed.

June 20 - Civil Rights leaders meet with President John F. Kennedy concerning the March on Washington.

August 28 - March on Washington

September 15 - Birmingham Bombing, four African American girls killed.

November 22 - President John F. Kennedy assassinated

1964

January 23 - Twenty-fourth Amendment eliminating polling tax on federal elections is ratified.

April 26 - Founding of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP).

June 21 - Goodmen, Schwerner, and Chany (Freedom Bus Riders) killed.

July 2 - President Johnson signs Civil Rights Bill.

1965

February 9 - King meets with President Johnson.

February 21 - Malcolm X is assassinated.

August 6 - Voting Rights Act signed.

August 11-16 - Watts Riots, Los Angeles, California

1966

Medicare Program was put into effect.

1967

Major riots broke out in Newark, New Jersey, and Detroit, Michigan during a summer of unrest by African Americans.

Thurgood Marshall was sworn in as the first African American U.S. Supreme Court Justice.

1968

April 4 - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is assassinated.

June 5 - Senator Robert F. Kennedy is assassinated.

Representative Shirley Chisholm (Democrat - New York) became the first African American woman elected to Congress.

1969

250,000 demonstrators march on Washington to protest the Vietnam War.

1971

July 1 - Twenty-sixth Amendment lowering the voting age to 18 years is ratified.

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Student Activities

Guided Practice: Interpreting Meaning

Directions: Either individually or in small groups, students should define the following terms and write a sentence using the term in the context of its relationship to the Civil Rights Movement. For extension, they should write a one-page report about the Civil Rights Movement using at least five of the terms from the list.

1. manumitted
2. slavery
3. Antebellum Period
4. abolitionist
5. Underground Railroad
6. ratify
7. Emancipation Proclamation
8. Radical Republicans
9. assassination
10. Thirteenth Amendment
11. Fourteenth Amendment
12. Fifteenth Amendment
13. Buffalo Soldiers
14. lynching
15. Ku Klux Klan
16. filibuster
17. Black Codes
18. sit-ins
19. Jim Crow Laws
20. civil rights
21. Reconstruction
22. injunction
23. carpetbaggers
24. disenfranchise
25. boycott
26. prejudice
27. Civil Rights Act of 1964
28. discrimination
29. Voting Rights Act of 1965
30. racism
31. segregation
32. desegregation
33. due process
34. civil disobedience

Answer Key

1. *manumitted* - To free from slavery or bondage; emancipate.
2. *slavery* - The state of one bound in servitude as the property of a slaveholder or household.
3. *Antebellum Period* - Belonging to the period before a war, especially the American Civil War.
4. *Abolitionist* - Supporter of the abolition (doing away with) of slavery.
5. *Underground Railroad* - Escape system by which fugitive slaves were secretly helped to reach the North or Canada.
6. *ratify* - To approve and sanction formally. A majority of a state's voters voting for an amendment, making it an article of their state constitution or the United States Constitution.
7. *Emancipation Proclamation* - Issued by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863. All slaves in the rebellious Confederate states freed, but slavery could continue to exist in those border states that were not at war against the Union.
8. *Radical Republicans* - Republican members of the Congress who favored policies to force radical changes in Southern life and politics after the Civil War.
9. *assassination* - To murder (usually a prominent person) for political reasons.
10. *Thirteenth Amendment* - Abolished slavery and prevents slavery under other names.
11. *Fourteenth Amendment* - Declares that all persons born or naturalized in the United States are American citizens and citizens of their state of residence, establishing the citizenship of former slaves. States cannot violate the rights of citizens, deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, or to deny any person the equal protection of the laws. (This is the basis for the Civil Rights Act of 1964.)
12. *Fifteenth Amendment* - The right of citizens to vote cannot be based on race, color, or previous condition of servitude (slavery). (Note: This did not give the right to vote to African American women. All women were still banned from voting in most state and federal elections. This amendment became the basis for the Voting Rights Act of 1965.)
13. *Buffalo Soldiers* - The 9th and 10th Cavalries in the U.S. Army whose enlisted composition was made up of African Americans, as established by Congress in July 1866. The majority of the soldiers had served in all-African American units during the Civil War. These regiments were nicknamed Buffalo Soldiers by the Cheyenne and Comanche. (Until the early 1890s they constituted 20 percent of all cavalry forces on the American frontier.)
14. *lynching* - Putting to death by mob action without due process of law
15. *Ku Klux Klan* - A secret organization founded in the southern states during Reconstruction to terrorize and intimidate former slaves and prevent them from voting or holding public office.
16. *filibuster* - A tactic for delaying or obstructing legislation by making long speeches, used in the United States Senate.

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17. *Black Codes* - Laws limiting the rights of former slaves passed by Southern state legislatures during Reconstruction.

18. *sit-ins* - An organized protest demonstration in which participants seat themselves and refuse to move.

19. *Jim Crow Laws* - The systematic practice of discriminating against and segregating African American people through legislation, especially as practiced in the South from the end of Reconstruction to the mid-twentieth century.

20. *civil rights* - Rights belonging to an individual by virtue of citizenship, including civil liberties, due process, equal protection of the laws, and freedom from discrimination.

21. *Reconstruction* - The period from 1865 through 1877, during which the states that had seceded to the Confederacy were controlled by the federal government before being readmitted to the Union.

22. *injunction* - A court order prohibiting a person or group from taking a specific course of action.

23. *carpetbaggers* - A Northerner who went to the South after the Civil War for political or financial advantage.

24. *disenfranchise* - To deprive of voting rights.

25. *boycott* - A group's refusal to have commercial dealings with some organization in protest against its policies

26. *prejudice* - Irrational suspicion or hatred of a particular group, race, or religion.

27. *Civil Rights Act of 1964* - Landmark legislation that prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, or national origin in employment and public facilities such as hotels, restaurants, and playgrounds.

28. *discrimination* - Treatment or consideration based on class or category rather than individual merit.

29. *Voting Rights Act of 1965* - This legislation prohibited literacy tests and sent federal examiners to the South to register voters.

30. *racism* - 1. The belief that race accounts for differences in human character or ability and that a particular race is superior to others. 2. Discrimination or prejudice based on race.

31. *segregation* - The policy or practice of separating people of different races, classes, or ethnic groups, as in schools, housing, and public or commercial facilities, especially as a form of discrimination, either by law or custom.

32. *desegregation* - To open (a school or workplace, for example) to members of all races or ethnic groups, especially by force of law.

33. *due process* - An established course for judicial proceedings or other governmental activities designed to safeguard the legal rights of the individual.

34. *civil disobedience* - Refusal to obey civil laws in an effort to induce change in governmental policy or legislation, characterized by the use of passive resistance or other nonviolent means.

Research

Students will be required to write a two- to three-page report that explains three events on the time line and those events' relationships (either individually or collectively) to the Civil Rights Movement in North Carolina or in their own community. The three events should be related in some way. (Examples: a student could choose two instances of school desegregation and the Swann decision on busing; or he or she could choose the Fifteenth Amendment, the Voting Rights Act, and the election of African Americans to a state or local public office.)

Independent Practice

Students will research additional events from their community or the state to add to the time line. These events can be submitted to the North Carolina Freedom Monument Project for inclusion in its programs.

Closure

Have the students write a journal entry and present to the class what they can do to improve race relations in the United States.

Assessment

- Student performance on the Interpreting Meaning.
- Student report explaining three events on the time line. Assessment criteria:

1. Students must choose three events.
2. Each event should have brief explanation of its significance in the Civil Rights Movement.
3. Students should describe how each of the three events are related to the other events he or she chose.
4. Students should explain why these events have been important in either North Carolina or their local community. This explanation should demonstrate strong reasoning (for example, affirmative action allowed African Americans to get better jobs and obtain more education in North Carolina, which helps the economy) and/or use specific examples

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(for example, Mayor ____ could not have run for office in our city).

5. Students should display proper use of language and grammar.

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<http://www.crmvet.org/crmlinks.htm>

Links to Civil Rights Movement-related Web sites and organizations, and includes links to print and media resources.

SNCC: 1960–1966. Six years of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

<http://www.ibiblio.org/sncc/index.html>

Civil Rights Heritage Center: Links & Resources.

http://www.iusb.edu/~civilrts/links_&_resources.htm

We Shall Overcome: Historic Places of the Civil Rights Movement.

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nrl/travel/civilrights>

A partnership project produced by the U.S. Department of Interior; National Park Service, U.S. Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers.

Suggested links and resources:

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nrl/travel/civilrights/intro1.htm>

Aboard the Underground Railroad: A National Register of Historic Places Travel Itinerary.

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nrl/travel/underground>

The itinerary currently provides descriptions and photographs on 55 historic places that are listed in the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places.

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