

Spirituals and Freedom Songs: Coded Communication

Lesson Title: The “Second Reconstruction” and Its Advancement of Civil Rights

Essential Question related to Vital Theme: Why did it take the Civil Rights Movement of the 20th century to finally free African Americans?

Lesson Time: One – two fifty-minute class periods

Curriculum Standards Addressed: §113.23 (5a, 6a, 7c) Social Studies Grade 7;
§113.24 (9a-c) Social Studies, Grade 8

Technology used and how: Internet for research

Materials: Copy of Emancipation Proclamation found on-line or in a textbook, computer

Activity description(s) and overview of instructional strategies:

Review the main points of the Reconstruction Era. Have students dissect the Emancipation Proclamation and list why they believe Lincoln meant regarding African Americans. Next, have them examine civil rights legislation passed during the Reconstruction Era. To what extent did Reconstruction lay the groundwork for the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950 and 60's? Have them describe legislation of this era.

Supporting Assignments/Homework: Have students take their findings and get with another student to compare notes. Students will display their ideas and findings on a piece of poster board to be displayed and discussed by the class.

Assessment: Using a general rubric found in various places such as the Internet, textbook assessment handbooks, etc., assess students' posters and give both the same grade. Also, have students use a rubric to grade each other's participation.