

Spirituals and Freedom Songs: Coded Communication

Lesson Title: A Comparison of the Two Reconstruction Periods

Essential Question related to Vital Theme: What are the similarities and differences of what some might consider to be the Two Reconstruction periods? These are the periods after African Americans were given their rights. The first began with the Emancipation Proclamation, and the second was after the Voting Rights Act in 1965. What were the challenges faced by African Americans after each? What was the atmosphere like after each?

Curriculum Standards Addressed: §113.23 (5b, 6a) Social Studies Grade 7; §113.24 (9a-c, 8b, and 20d) Social Studies, Grade 8

Technology used and how: Internet, textbooks, and sources found in library for research

Materials: Computer, textbooks, library books, internet

Supporting Assignments/Homework: Have students reflect in their journals their feelings of the assignment. What did they think about it taking so long for freedom to finally be achieved? How would they have felt? What questions and/or concerns do they have about the situation?

Assessment: Have students write a five-paragraph comparative/contrast essay of the two reconstruction periods based on their findings.