Unit 1: Civil Rights

Content Area: **Social Studies**
Course(s):
Time Period: **September**
Length: **3 weeks**
Status: **Published**

Transfer

The 1950s were marked by growing tensions abroad, and the 1960s were marked by growing tensions at home. The civil rights movement had grown during the 1950s, but it surged during the 1960s. The movement resulted in significant changes in law in the United States at the local, state, and national level. Gigantic new government programs reformed American life in significant ways.

Enduring Understandings

- Activism and a series of Supreme Court decisions advanced equal rights for African Americans in the 1950s and 1960s.
- Civil Rights activists broke through racial barriers. Their activism prompted landmark legislation.
- Disagreements among civil rights groups and the rise of black nationalism created a violent period in the fight for civil rights.

Essential Questions

- What were the effects of the Supreme Court decision Plessey v. Ferguson?
- How did the Brown decision affect schools?
- Why weren’t schools in all regions desegregated immediately after the Brown II decision?
- Why was Rosa Parks significant?
- What did the freedom riders hope to achieve?
- Why did civil rights groups organize the Freedom Summer?
- What were some accomplishments of the civil rights movement?

Content

Learning Objectives

1. Explain how legalized segregation deprived African Americans of their rights as citizens.
2. Summarize civil rights legal activity and the responses to the Plessey and Brown cases.
3. Trace Dr. Martin Luther King's civil rights activities, analyzing the impact of each, and how the civil rights movement expanded.

4. Identify the goal of the freedom riders.
5. Explain how civil rights activism forced President Kennedy to act against segregation.
6. State the motives of the 1960 March on Washington.
7. Describe the tactics tried by civil rights organizations to secure passage of the Voting Rights Act.
8. Compare segregation in the North with segregation in the South.
9. Identify the leaders who shaped the Black Power movement.
10. Describe the reaction to the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.
11. Summarize the accomplishments of the civil rights movement.

21st Century Skills

1. Creativity
2. Collaboration
3. Critical Thinking
4. Communication
5. Information and Media Literacy

Standards

SOC.6.1.12.A.1.b	Analyze how gender, property ownership, religion, and legal status affected political rights.
SOC.6.1.12.A.14.b	Analyze how the Supreme Court has interpreted the Constitution to define the rights of the individual, and evaluate the impact on public policies.
SOC.6.1.12.A.14.g	Analyze the impact of community groups and state policies that strive to increase the youth vote (i.e., distribution of voter registration forms in high schools).
SOC.6.1.12.C.13.a	Explain how individuals and organizations used economic measures (e.g., the Montgomery Bus Boycott, sit downs, etc.) as weapons in the struggle for civil and human rights.
SOC.6.1.12.D.14.b	Assess the effectiveness of actions taken to address the causes of continuing urban tensions and violence.