



BELLEVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

102 Passaic Avenue
Belleville, New Jersey 07109
973-450-3500 x. 10247

Web Site: www.bellevilleschools.org

Richard Tomko, Ph.D., M.J.
Superintendent of Schools

LucyAnn Demikoff
Director of Curriculum & Instruction K-12
lucyann.demikoff@belleville.k12.nj.us

Educating all students throughout the spectrum of Kindergarten through grade twelve about the African slave trade, slavery, and the accomplishments, contributions, and achievements of African Americans must be ongoing and current throughout the school year. Infusing multi versed historical versions of the curriculum must not exclusive to incorporation during the month of February, Black History Month.

Aligned with the curriculum and NJSLS, the following are common themes related to Amistad history that are found within the myWorld Interactive Social Studies series Kindergarten through grade 5. Emphasis and the degree of content as it relates to promoting educational awareness of of what is most appropriate for a particular grade level.the African Slave Trade, slavery, and African American contributions to society vary in content, depth, and sensitivity in consideration

- * People learning and working together
- * Citizenship
- * Symbols & Traditions of the United States
- * Life today & long ago
- * Differences in manners around the world
- * Respect for rights & others
- * People, Places, & Nature
- * Making a Difference
- *Americans and Their History
- *Government in the United States
- * Heroes who inspire change
- * Cultural Celebrations
- * Days to honor Leaders
- * Ethnic & Harvest celebrations
- * Life in the colonies
- * The Slave Trade, Middle passage, & Slavery in the Northern/Southern Colonies
- * The American Revolution
- * Life in the Young Republic
- * Life during the Civil War

Certain historical figures such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, and George Washington Carver are referenced throughout the elementary curriculum.

Within grade 6, World History the following content is addressed:

Topic 14 - African Civilizations addresses geography and trading patterns of West and East Africa.

Topic 16 - Global Convergence addresses The Atlantic Slave Trade, how it impacted Africa, what life was like as a slave, and the horrors of the Middle Passage.

Topic 19 - The Modern World addresses The Struggle for Human Rights, segregation, and apartheid.

The grade 6 pacing guide does not include Topics 14, 16, & 19, so therefore revisions are recommended to promote instruction in regards to this part of African History.

The incorporation of the text, Interactive Journal, videos, audio, interactive, writing, games, worksheets, & assessment.

Embedded within Seventh Grade World Geography Amistad History, teaching about the arrival of Europeans in Africa, the Atlantic Slave Trade & its effects, the Middle Passage, the Berlin Conference, and Genocide. These topics are spiraled for presentation throughout the school year.

Eighth grade United States History incorporates Amistad History via slavery in the South colonies.

Additional African American accomplishments and achievements include abolitionists for example: Sojourner Truth & Harriet Tubman. The Fugitive Slave Act referencing Anthony Burns (fugitive slave) along with other topics including the Fight over Reconstruction, Fifteenth Amendment (African American males - right to vote), Hiram Revels (1st African American elected to the US Senate in 1870, Ku Klux Klan, & the Jim Crow Laws are enveloped.

Within American History, United States History I & II the following modules and lesson examples crosswalk the Amistad curriculum.

Module 8 – Reform Movement 1819-1849 (Slavery & Abolition)

Module 9 – The Civil War 1849 – 1866 (Slavery & Succession)

Module 10 – Reconstruction 1864 – 1878 (Life after Slavery)

Module 17 – The Roaring 20s 1919 – 1929 (The Harlem Renaissance)

Module 24 – Civil Rights 1953 – 2010 (One American’s Story)

Module 27 – Into a New Millennium 1991 – 2015 (Obama’s Presidency)

Module 28 – The United States in the 21st Century 1999 – 2016 (Diffusion on a Global Scale)

Some examples of Historical figures that compliment the curriculum include:

Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Dred Scott, Ned Cobb, Ida B Wells, Rosa Parks, Louis Armstrong, Barack Obama, & Alice Walker.

An anonymous and voluntary Google Amistad Curriculum Inquiry was sent to all faculty K – 12 who teach Social Studies. A sampling of responses obtained as a result of the Inquiry are listed below:

Question 1: Please identify areas within your grade level Social Studies Program which emphasize African American history, contributions, and experiences.

Question 2: What activities do you implement (i.e. research, homework, projects, classwork, etc.) to recognize African American history, contributions, and experiences that have led to the strengthening of our society?

Q1: American Holidays, discussion & Citizenship lessons about MLK Jr., George Washington Carver, Jackie Robinson, Rosa Parks, & Wilma Rudolph.

Elementary Responses:

Throughout My World Interactive, famous African Americans are mentioned including their contributions and inventions.

Discussion regarding inspiring heroes, discussion on civil rights, protests, & race.

Life in the colonies, The American Revolution, The Articles of Confederation, Black History reports/research projects, & Read Alouds

Slavery in the colonies, James Armistead, The Bill of Rights, 15th Amendment-African Americans win the right to vote, slavery begins & the start of abolitionists, African Americans during the Civil War, & Reconstruction Era.

Ancient African Civilizations

Leveled readers in ELA & Social Studies

Middle School Responses:

Discrimination laws, Civil Rights Movement, & contributing figures.

Sub cultures within America, the Caribbean, Latin America, shaping of local cultures (African American Native Americans, & Europeans.

The Triangular Trade and impact on slavery.

Black History Month – African American figures who have contributed to society in Science, art, & civil rights.

African Slave Trade, & slavery in America

Geography incorporating the influence of groups to the formation of America.

Progressive & Civil Rights Eras

African American leaders & politicians who impacted their communities/society by influencing government to change & implement laws.

High School:

African American History

Current Events, contributions, & experiences

Slave trade during exploration

Q2: Participation in Black History Month Celebrations activities, district wide events projects, & integration of My World Social Studies text and interactive text to teach and discuss African American History.

Elementary Responses:

Class discussions

During Black History Month discussion involving segregation, heroes, achievements, and projects.

Diverse classroom library

Students conduct research on historical African Americans who became leaders and began a powerful movement leading up to freedom.

Students learn how African Americans overcame more obstacles than anyone else in history.

Projects based on the growth of those who have contributed to our society, from music, sports, politics, and medicine.

Contributions of African American contributions and the events that define modern civil rights movement in America and how these events shape contemporary society, and how they connect to the students.

Middle School Responses:

Research projects & posters on Historical African American figures, inventors & achievements.

Homework, videos about Civil Rights movement & African American Subcultures.

Analyzing African American contributions to society

Difference between Booker T Washington and WEB DuBois

Harriet Tubman & the Underground Railroad

High School:

Classwork, homework, discussions, & presentations

Within grade 6, World History, Topic 14 African Civilizations addresses geography and trading patterns of West and East Africa.

Topic 16 Global Convergence addresses The Atlantic Slave Trade, how is impacted Africa, what life was like as a slave, and the horrors of the Middle Passage.

Topic 19 The Modern World addresses The Struggle for Human Rights, segregation, and apartheid.

The grade 6 pacing guide does not cover Topics 14, 16, & 19, which need to be included in order for all grade 6 teachers to ensure teaching about this part of African History.

This can be achieved through the incorporation of the text, Interactive Journal, videos, audio, etext, writing, games, worksheets, & differentiated assessments.

Belleville High School offers a course titled, Holocaust & Genocide Studies. Units of study within the curriculum encapsulate the following: The Nature of Human Behavior & Views of Prejudice, The Rise of Nazism & The Holocaust, and Genocide & Issues of Conscience & Moral Responsibility.