

Unit 1: 3rd Amistad

Content Area: **Template**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Full Year**
Length: **Full Year**
Status: **Published**

GOALS/PURPOSE

Purpose

The Amistad Commission ensures that the Department of Education and public schools of New Jersey implement materials and texts which integrate the history and contributions of African-Americans and the descendants of the African Diaspora.

Goals

1. To infuse the history of Africans and African-Americans into the social studies curriculum in order to provide an accurate, complete and inclusive history.
2. To ensure that New Jersey teachers are equipped to effectively teach the revised social studies core curriculum content standards.
3. To create and coordinate workshops, seminars, institutes, memorials and events which raise public awareness about the importance of the history of African-Americans to the growth and development of American society in global context.

ELA.L.VI.3.3	Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships and nuances in word meanings.
ELA.RL.CR.3.1	Ask and answer questions and make relevant connections to demonstrate understanding of a literary text, referring explicitly to textual evidence as the basis for the answers.
ELA.RI.CR.3.1	Ask and answer questions and make relevant connections to demonstrate understanding of an informational text, referring explicitly to textual evidence as the basis for the answers.
ELA.RL.MF.3.6	Explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character or setting).
ELA.RI.MF.3.6	Use information gained from text features (e.g., illustrations, maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).
ELA.RI.AA.3.7	Describe the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in a text (e.g., comparison, cause/effect, first/second/third in a sequence) to support specific points the author makes in a text.
ELA.RL.CT.3.8	Compare and contrast the elements (theme, settings, and plots) of literary texts written by the same author about similar characters (e.g., in books from a series).
ELA.RI.CT.3.8	Compare and contrast the elements of informational texts regarding the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic.

READ ALOUD TEXTS/EXCERPTS

- [I Am Ruby Bridges](#) by Ruby Bridges - *My work will be precious. I will bridge the "gap" between Black & white...and hopefully all people! I suppose some things in life are just meant to be. When Ruby Bridges was six years old, she became the first Black child to integrate the all-white William Frantz Elementary in Louisiana. Based on the pivotal events that happened in 1960 and told from her point of view, this is a poetic reflection on her experience that changed the face of history and the trajectory of the Civil Rights movement. I Am Ruby Bridges offers hope and confidence to all children. It is the perfect learning tool for schools and libraries to teach*

the story of Ruby Bridges and introduce this landmark story to young readers in a powerful new way. This story of innocence and courage is brought to life by NAACP-nominated artist, Nikkolas Smith through stunning and breath-taking illustrations. Embracing the meaning of her name, Bridges reflects with poignancy and heart on the way one brave little girl stood proud to help build a bridge between all people and pave the path for future generations.

- [All Different Now: Juneteenth, the First Day of Freedom](#) by Angela Johnson - Through the eyes of one little girl, *All Different Now* tells the story of the first Juneteenth, the day freedom finally came to the last of the slaves in the South. Since then, the observance of June 19 as African American Emancipation Day has spread across the United States and beyond. This stunning picture book includes notes from the author and illustrator, a timeline of important dates, and a glossary of relevant terms. Told in Angela Johnson's signature melodic style and brought to life by E.B. Lewis's striking paintings, *All Different Now* is a joyous portrait of the dawn breaking on the darkest time in our nation's history.
- [Opening the Road: Victor Hugo Green and His Green Book](#) by Keila V. Dawson - In the late 1930s when segregation was legal and Black Americans couldn't visit every establishment or travel everywhere they wanted to safely, a New Yorker named Victor Hugo Green decided to do something about it. Green wrote and published a guide that listed places where his fellow Black Americans could be safe in New York City. The guide sold like hot cakes! Soon customers started asking Green to make a guide to help them travel and vacation safely across the nation too. With the help of his mail carrier co-workers and the African American business community, Green's guide allowed millions of African Americans to travel safely and enjoy traveling across the nation.
- [The ABCs of Black History](#) by Rio Cortez - Letter by letter, *The ABCs of Black History* celebrates a story that spans continents and centuries, triumph and heartbreak, creativity and joy. It's a story of big ideas—P is for Power, S is for Science and Soul. Of significant moments—G is for Great Migration. Of iconic figures—H is for Zora Neale Hurston, X is for Malcom X. It's an ABC book like no other, and a story of hope and love. In addition to rhyming text, the book includes back matter with information on the events, places, and people mentioned in the poem, from Mae Jemison to W. E. B. Du Bois, Fannie Lou Hamer to Sam Cooke, and the Little Rock Nine to DJ Kool Herc.

ARTICLES AND/OR VIDEO RESOURCES (FOR INSTRUCTIONAL PURPOSES)

BrainPop:

- [Ruby Bridges](#)
- [Martin Luther King, Jr.](#)
- [Rosa Parks](#)
- [Harriet Tubman](#)

CommonLit:

- [Rosa Parks](#)
- [Guion Bluford](#)
- [Jackie Robinson](#)
- ["We Will Walk"](#)
- [Martin Luther King, Jr.](#)

WEBSITES (FOR STUDENTS TO INTERACT WITH)

Ducksters- [Biographies of African Americans](#)

Epic - [Amistad 3rd Grade Book Collection](#)

PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS (LESSON PLANS, REPRODUCIBLES, ETC.)

[Stand Up, Sit In, Speak Out](#) Lesson Plan - *In this lesson from the PBS KIDS series ARTHUR, students examine activism and how ordinary people can be part of powerful collective movements that bring change. Students watch “Arthur Takes a Stand” and discuss taking action against things they believe are unjust. They map out the characters’ actions, noting that multiple voices bring power and opportunities for change. Then they listen to a story about the reasons people protest and are introduced to important movements in our country’s history. Finally, they explore different ways people take action and brainstorm a list of issues in their own community that they would like to change.*

Helpful Websites:

- [Learning for Justice](#)
- [Morningside Center for Social Responsibility](#)
- [Facing History and Ourselves](#)
- [Scott O'Dell Book Awards](#)
- [African American Museum of Philadelphia](#)
- [PBS Learning Media](#)