



The Early Civil Rights Movement

1945-1960



Where We've Been



Middle Passage

Three-fifths Compromise



Northwest Ordinances

Eli Whitney invents the cotton gin

Abolitionist movement



Kansas-Nebraska Act

Dred Scott case

John Brown's Raid



Civil War

Emancipation Proclamation



13th Amendment

14th Amendment

15th Amendment

Freedman's Bureau

Black codes

Ku Klux Klan

Jim Crow laws

Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)

Creation of the NAACP

Louis Armstrong

Harlem Renaissance

A. Phillip Randolph





Georgia Standards

SSUSH22 The student will identify dimensions of the Civil Rights Movement, 1945-1970.

- a. Explain the importance of President Truman’s order to integrate the U.S. military and the federal government.
- b. Identify Jackie Robinson and the integration of baseball.
- c. Explain Brown v. Board of Education and efforts to resist the decision.

Jackie Robinson




- While many aspects of American life were segregated, some progress was being made.
- In 1947 Jackie Robinson joined the Brooklyn Dodgers and became the first African American to play baseball in the major leagues.

Truman Advocates Equality

- After WWII, President Truman pushed for legislation to improve opportunities for African Americans.
- He was met with resistance by Congress for many of his initiatives dealing with race relations. (voting rights, anti-lynching)
- In response, Truman issued an executive order in 1948 effectively desegregating the military.





Brown v. Board of Education

NAACP Challenges Segregation

- Beginning in the 1940's, the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) began challenging the constitutionality of segregation.
- The legal team was headed by Thurgood Marshall.
- Later in 1967, Marshall would be appointed the first African American to the Supreme Court.



Brown v. Board of Education

- In 1954 the Supreme Court ruled unanimously in *Brown v. Board of Education* that segregation in public schools was unconstitutional.
- The ruling overturned *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896), concluding that “separate but equal” violated the principles of the Constitution.



A vertical column of seven stylized leaf motifs in a light blue-grey color is positioned on the left side of the slide. A solid black horizontal line is located above the text.

Resistance to Brown v. Board of Education

White Citizens Councils

- The court went even further to demand that schools be desegregated “with all deliberate speed.”
- Many in the South resisted the Brown decision and organized “White Citizens Councils” to actively protest against desegregation.



The Little Rock 9

- In 1957 a famous battle over segregation took place in Little Rock, Arkansas.
- Nine African Americans volunteered to be the first black students admitted to Central High School.
- However the governor of Arkansas, Orval Faubus, opposed integration and sent state troops to block the “Little Rock 9” from entering the school.



Eisenhower Responds

- When Governor Faubus refused to admit the Little Rock 9, President Eisenhower sent in federal troops to enforce the Supreme Court's decision.
- Similar to the nullification crisis, this episode in US history highlights the power struggle between state and federal government.



Ruby Bridges



- Remembered as the first child to attend an all-white elementary school in the South
- Her parents responded to a request from the NAACP and volunteered her to help integrate the New Orleans school system
- In 1960, she began going to William Frantz Elementary School
- Parents withheld their students from class, and teachers refused to teach her (except one who taught her alone for a year)

Wrong Side of History?



- What are people saying about her 50 years later?



- What will people say about them in 50 years?