

Lesson: Freedom Timeline

Grade: 3rd, 4th, 8th, adaptable to all

Meets These Social Studies Content Standards:

History (Chronology)

3rd. Place local historical events in sequential order on a timeline.

8th. Select events and construct a multiple-tier timeline to show relationships among events.

People in Societies (Interaction)

4th. Explain the reasons people came to Ohio including: c. freedom from political and religious oppression.

8th. Analyze the economic, geographic, religious, and political factors that contributed to: a. The enslavement of Africans in North America; b. Resistance to slavery.

Social Studies Skills and Methods (Obtaining Information)

3rd. Obtain information about local issues from a variety of sources including: f. documents

Timeline Glossary:

abolition. The act of bringing something to an end, or abolishing it – such as slavery.

abolitionist. A person who called for the immediate end to slavery. People who campaigned for the abolition of slavery.

amendment, 13th. The change to the U.S. Constitution that freed the slaves.

Anti-Slavery Society. An organization founded to abolish slavery.

bondage. Lack of freedom, slavery.

bounty. A reward offered in exchange of something.

Civil War. The war from 1861 to 1865 between the northern and southern United States.

Compromise of 1850. Congress provided that California would enter as a free state, it provided for the separate territories of New Mexico and Utah, it ended slave trade in Washington D.C., it provided for a strict fugitive slave law, and it settled the border between Texas and New Mexico.

constitution. The basic written principals according to which a nation is governed. Basic laws and principles of a nation.

constitutional amendment. A change to the constitution.

document. A written or printed statement that give proof and information about something.

emancipation. The act of freeing or being freed.

Emancipation Proclamation. President Lincoln’s declaration that freed the slaves in the South.

equality. A quality that makes circumstances equal.

escape. To get away, to get free.

ex-slave. A person who *was* the property of another person and who was forced to work for his/her owner and could be bought or sold like any other property.

foundry. A business that melts metal and pour it into molds. John Parker, a former slave, opened a foundry.



freedom. To have liberty. To be free to move about and act.

fugitive slave. A slave who has run away and is avoiding capture.

Fugitive Slave Acts of 1793 and 1850. Laws that required all citizens to help catch runaway slaves. Those who assisted runaways could be fined or jailed.

liberty. Freedom. The power to do as one pleases.

manumission. The freeing of a slave by his or her owner. Some were granted freedom and others had to buy it.

Negro. A person belonging to any of the black races of Africa.

Northwest Ordinances of 1787. A federal ordinance that among other things, did not allow slavery within the Northwest Territory.

Northwest Territory. A territory of the United States that eventually became Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and part of Minnesota.

Ohio's Black Laws of 1804 and 1807. Laws within Ohio that dealt with African-American issues.

President Abraham Lincoln. President during the Civil War and who declared the Emancipation Proclamation.

primary source. An original item or document that was created by the person who was there when history was being made.

pro-slavery. A person who is in favor of human bondage or is sympathetic to the South.

refugee slave. A person who flees from one place to find safety or protection in another. A fugitive slave, a runaway.

segregation. Separation or isolation of certain persons on the grounds of color or other reasons.

slave. A person who is the property of another person and who is forced to work for his/her owner and can be bought or sold like any other property.

slavery. The practice of owning slaves. The practice of owning human beings as property, or the condition of being a slave.

trial. The examining and deciding of a case that is brought to a court of law.

underground railroad. A network of trails, roads, and sea routes along which slaves escaped from slave states to free states for freedom.

Union. The states that remained loyal to the United States during the Civil War.

Opening Statement:

The issue of whether the buying, selling, and keeping of slaves is morally right is centuries old. Through the years, under various circumstances, slavery has existed. In North America, in the 18th and 19th centuries, people were on both sides of the issue and were debating and acting on their beliefs. This lesson focuses on placing many of these events on a timeline.

Question: How long have we been fighting for freedom from slavery?

Activity: Make a Freedom Timeline

Make the event cards. Each card should have a heading and a description, but no date (unless it's in the heading). Set up a relay course. Group is divided into two teams. Give each team time to review the timeline event cards. After the time is up, the cards are shuffled and stacked at the front of the course's "start". At the signal the first person in line takes the top card. They run a short distance and place the event on the timeline in the approximate place of where it goes [the spaces could be numbered], then runs back to

the end of the line. This continues until the timeline is complete. The each team as a whole then has two minutes to decide if everything is in the right place. One person goes and makes the changes the team has decided. Both timelines are then reviewed and discussed.

Materials

- cards of [undated] historical events regarding freedom, two sets
Text for Cards (without dates):
 - First slaves arrive in Virginia [1619]
 - First anti-slavery publication [MA, 1700]
 - World's first abolitionist society [Philadelphia, 1787]
 - Declaration of Independence [1776]
 - Fugitive Slave Act [1793], [1850]
 - United States Bans Slave Trade [1808]
 - Reverend John Rankin settles in Ripley, OH [1821]
 - Rev. Rankin's thirteen anti-slavery letters to his brother were published in book form [1826]
 - Rankin family moves from Front Street to brick house on Liberty Hill [1828]
 - First Anti-Slavery Society Meeting in Red Oak, OH [1835]
 - Ohio Anti-Slavery society records 331 members [1836]
 - Runaway slave Eliza crosses the Ohio River [1838]
 - John Parker helped his first runaway slave [1845]
 - John Parker moves from Cincinnati to Ripley, OH [1848]
 - Harriet Beecher Stowe's anti-slavery story *Uncle Tom's Cabin; or, Life Among the Lowly* began to appear in serial form in the *Washington National Era*, an abolitionist weekly. [1851]
 - John Parker (former slave) starts foundry in Ripley, OH [1853]
 - Abraham Lincoln elected president [1860]
 - Civil War begins [1861]
 - After helping slaves escape for four years, Arnold Gragston – a slave himself - finally ran away from the Kentucky farm with his wife [1863]
 - Emancipation Proclamation [1863]
 - Slavery Abolished [1865]

Closing:

Freedom issues and questions of rights and responsibilities continued after the Underground Railroad, Civil War and the Emancipation Proclamation e.g., 60s Civil Rights Movement, Soviet/German freedom in 1980s, Middle East today. Slavery exists still in the world

Addition Sources:

http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2002/12/1202_021202_Salakkayak.html

http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2003/06/0602_030602_untouchables.html [site should be reviewed by teacher first for suitability for students]

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