

# TEACHER'S GUIDE

## Additional Resources

### MISSION US: "No Turning Back"

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*The creators of MISSION US have assembled the following list of additional resources to enhance and extend teacher and student learning about the people, places, and historical events depicted in the game.*

#### WEBSITES

##### Portals and Collections

##### **SNCC Digital Gateway**

<https://snccdigital.org/>

Through documents, oral testimony, timelines, biographies of key people in the movement, and more, this website immerses users in the history of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, the only national civil rights organization led by young people. The site's documentary resources can help students understand the story of "No Turning Back" more deeply, especially how SNCC worked with local people in the Deep South to build a grassroots movement.

##### **Civil Rights Movement Archive**

<https://www.crmvet.org/>

This website offers an extensive online archive of original Civil Rights Movement documents, letters, posters, images, and other materials. The collection also includes personal stories, narratives and interviews, discussions and commentaries, a poetry section, and a Movement-related bibliography and list of web links.

##### **Library of Congress Exhibition: The Civil Rights Act of 1964: A Long Struggle for Freedom**

<https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/civil-rights-act/index.html>

This online exhibition offers overviews and primary sources to help students explore the events that shaped the long civil rights movement leading up to the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

##### **Social History for Every Classroom**

<https://shec.ashp.cuny.edu/>

This site, created by the American Social History Project, offers classroom-ready primary documents and teaching activities that engage students with deep historical questions and are designed to support learning at every level. Search for "civil rights" or "voting rights."

##### **Facing History and Ourselves**

<https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library>



# TEACHER'S GUIDE

## Additional Resources

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This nonprofit organization offers an extensive library of educator resources for teaching U.S. history, including the following resources related to the civil rights movement:

- **Eyes on the Prize Study Guide**  
<https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/eyes-prize-study-guide>  
This companion to [the seminal documentary series](#) about the civil rights movement includes primary source documents, discussion questions, and timelines.
- **Democracy in Action, a Study Guide to Accompany the Film Freedom Riders**  
<https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/democracy-action-study-guide-accompany-film-freedom-riders>  
This companion to the [American Experience documentary](#) includes readings, documents, and activities to introduce students to the history of the Freedom Riders.
- **Choices in Little Rock**  
<https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/choices-little-rock>  
This in depth unit explores the integration of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1954.

#### **Learning for Justice**

<https://www.learningforjustice.org/classroom-resources>

This nonprofit organization offers a variety of classroom resources to promote teaching and learning about racial justice and human rights. Their library includes lessons, texts, teaching strategies, timelines, and more. Search for "civil rights" or "voting rights."

#### **Digital History: America in Ferment: The Tumultuous 1960s**

<https://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/era.cfm?eraID=17&smtID=2>

This collection of articles and primary source documents related to the Civil Rights movement is part of the website hosted by the University of Houston to support K-12 US History teachers.

#### ***Resources, Lessons, and Links***

#### **PBS LearningMedia Collections**

<https://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/>

- **Civil Rights**  
<https://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/civil/>
- **Civil Rights: Then and Now**



# TEACHER'S GUIDE

## Additional Resources

### MISSION US: "No Turning Back"

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- <https://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/civilrightsthenandnow/>
- **Freedom Riders**  
<https://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/frriders/>
- **March on Washington**  
<https://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/marchonwashington/>

#### **Unit: Freedom Now - The Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi**

<https://www.choices.edu/curriculum-unit/freedom-now-civil-rights-movement-mississippi/>

The Choices Program at Brown University offers a variety of inquiry-based curricula about history and current issues. This unit incorporates primary source, video, and inquiry-based activities into a study of the civil rights movement at the local level.

#### **Timeline: "The Development and Evolution of Voting Rights in America"**

<https://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-resources/online-exhibitions/timeline-voting-rights>

This digital resource created by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History traces the evolution of voting rights in U.S. History from 1787 to 2020 through a variety of primary source documents and other visual resources.

#### **10 Questions for Young Changemakers**

<https://yppactionframe.fas.harvard.edu/home>

Harvard University's Democratic Knowledge Project has developed "10 Questions for Young Changemakers" as a framework to help students understand activism in history and guide their participation in American democracy today. This site includes an explanation of the framework and several suggestions for applying the framework to a study of civil rights activism.

### BOOKS

#### *Non-fiction for Students*

**Lewis, John; Aydin, Andrew; and Powell, Nate (illustrator). *March Trilogy*. Top Shelf Productions, 2013-2016**

Discover the inside story of the Civil Rights Movement through the eyes of one of its most iconic figures, Congressman John Lewis. *March* is the award-winning, #1 bestselling graphic novel trilogy recounting his life in the movement.

**Moody, Anne. *Coming of Age In Mississippi*. New York: Delta, 2004**



# TEACHER'S GUIDE

## Additional Resources

### MISSION US: "No Turning Back"

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Through the NAACP and later through CORE and SNCC, Anne Moody experienced firsthand the demonstrations and sit-ins that were the mainstay of the civil rights movement—and the arrests and jailings, the shotguns, fire hoses, police dogs, billy clubs, and deadly force that were used to destroy it. A deeply personal story but also a portrait of a turning point in our nation's destiny, this autobiography lets us see history in the making, through the eyes of one of the footsoldiers in the civil rights movement.

**Pattillo Beals, Melba.** *Warriors Don't Cry.* New York: Spark Publishing, 2007.

In this autobiographical account by one of the Civil Rights Movement's most powerful figures, Melba Pattillo Beals of the Little Rock Nine explores not only the oppressive force of racism, but the ability of young people to change ideas of race and identity. In 1957, Beals and eight other teenagers became iconic symbols for the Civil Rights Movement and the dismantling of Jim Crow in the American South as they integrated Little Rock's Central High School in the wake of the landmark 1954 Supreme Court ruling, *Brown v. Board of Education*.

**Woodson, Jacqueline.** *Brown Girl Dreaming.* New York: Puffin Books, 2016.

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world.

#### Fiction for Students

**Curtis, Christopher Paul.** *The Watsons Go to Birmingham - 1963.* New York: Yearling, 1995.

When the Watson family—ten-year-old Kenny, Momma, Dad, little sister Joetta, and brother Byron—sets out on a trip south to visit Grandma in Birmingham, Alabama, they don't realize that they're heading toward one of the darkest moments in America's history. The Watsons' journey reminds us that even in the hardest times, laughter and family can help us get through anything.

**Taylor, Mildred.** *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry.* New York: Penguin, 1976.

Set in Mississippi at the height of the Depression, this is the story of one family's struggle to maintain their integrity, pride, and independence in the face of racism and social injustice. And it is also Cassie's story—Cassie Logan, an independent girl who discovers over the course of an

# TEACHER'S GUIDE

## Additional Resources

### MISSION US: "No Turning Back"

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important year why having land of their own is so crucial to the Logan family, even as she learns to draw strength from her own sense of dignity and self-respect.

**Wiles, Deborah. *Revolution*. New York: Scholastic, 2014.**

It's 1964, and Sunny's town is being invaded. Or at least that's what the adults of Greenwood, Mississippi, are saying. All Sunny knows is that people from up north are coming to help people register to vote. They're calling it Freedom Summer. In this documentary novel Deborah Wiles uses stories and images to tell the riveting story of a certain time and place -- and of kids who, in a world where everyone is choosing sides, must figure out how to stand up for themselves and fight for what's right.

#### *Non-fiction for Adults*

**Branch, Taylor. *America in the King Years (3-book series)*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1988, 1998, and 2006.**

In the three volumes of this series (*Parting the Waters, 1954-63; Pillar of Fire, 1963-65; and At Canaan's Edge, 1965-68*), Branch exhaustively tells the story of the civil rights movement, and the United States during those years, through the career of Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Theoharis, Jeanne. *A More Beautiful and Terrible History: The Uses and Misuses of Civil Rights History*. Boston: Beacon Press, 2018.**

By showing us the complex reality of the civil rights movement, the power of its organizing, and the beauty and scope of the vision, Theoharis proves that there was nothing natural or inevitable about the progress that occurred. Theoharis changes our historical frame, revealing the richness of our civil rights legacy, the uncomfortable mirror it holds to the nation, and the crucial work that remains to be done.

**Hampton, Henry, and Fayer, Steve. *Voices of Freedom: An Oral History of the Civil Rights Movement from the 1950s Through the 1980s*. New York: Bantam Books, 1990.**

A monumental volume drawing upon nearly one thousand interviews with civil rights activists, politicians, reporters, Justice Department officials, and others, weaving a fascinating narrative of the civil rights movement told by the people who lived it. Hampton and Fayer, bring to life the country's great struggle for civil rights as no conventional narrative can. You will hear the voices of those who defied the blackjacks, who went to jail, who witnessed and policed the movement; of those who stood for and against it—voices from the heart of America.

# TEACHER'S GUIDE

## Additional Resources

### MISSION US: "No Turning Back"

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**Holsaert, Faith S. et al. *Hands on the Freedom Plow: Personal Accounts by Women in SNCC*. Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 2010.**

Fifty-two women--northern and southern, young and old, urban and rural, black, white, and Latina--share their courageous personal stories of working for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) on the front lines of the Civil Rights Movement.

#### Fiction for Adults

**Nicholas, Denise. *Freshwater Road*. Chicago: Agate, 2005.**

Nicholas tells the story of one young woman's coming of age via the political and social upheavals of the civil rights movement. Nineteen-year-old Celeste Tyree leaves Ann Arbor to go to Pineyville, Mississippi, in the summer of 1964 to help found a voter registration project as part of Freedom Summer. As the summer unfolds, she confronts not only the political realities of race and poverty in this tiny town, but also deep truths about her family and herself.

#### FILMS & VIDEO

***Eyes on the Prize*. Created by Henry Hampton. Blackside, 1987-1990.**

An award-winning 14-hour documentary that tells the definitive story of the civil rights era from the point of view of the ordinary men and women whose extraordinary actions launched a movement that changed the fabric of American life, and embodied a struggle whose reverberations continue to be felt today.

***Freedom Riders*. Written, Produced and Directed by Stanley Nelson. New York: Firelight Films, 2011.**

This film, aired on American Experience, tells the powerful harrowing and ultimately inspirational story of six months in 1961 that changed America forever. From May until November 1961, more than 400 black and white Americans risked their lives—and many endured savage beatings and imprisonment—for simply traveling together on buses and trains as they journeyed through the Deep South.

***Freedom Summer*. Written, Produced and Directed by Stanley Nelson. New York: Firelight Films, 2014.**

This film, aired on American Experience, tells the story of the 1964 plan hatched by Bob Moses, a local secretary for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, to force the media and

# TEACHER'S GUIDE

## Additional Resources

### MISSION US: "No Turning Back"

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the country to take notice of the shocking violence and massive injustice taking place in Mississippi.

***Let the World See.* Directed by Jeanmarie Condon and Fatima Curry. New York: ABC News, 2022.**

This documentary tells the story of the murder of Emmett Till in Mississippi in 1955 and his mother's fight to bring her son's body home to Chicago. Mamie Till-Mobley's decision to have an open-casket funeral for her son for the public to see, ultimately served as a turning point for the civil rights movement.

***John Lewis: Good Trouble.* Directed by Dawn Porter. New York: Magnolia Pictures, 2020.**

This documentary chronicles the life and career of the legendary civil rights activist and Democratic Representative from Georgia. Using interviews and rare archival footage, the film chronicles John Robert Lewis' 60-plus years of social activism and legislative action on civil rights, voting rights, gun control, health-care reform and immigration.

***Soundtrack for a Revolution.* A film by Bill Guttentag and Dan Sturman. Freedom Song Productions, LLC, 2009.**

The story of the American civil rights movement is told through its powerful music -- the freedom songs that protesters sang on picket lines, in mass meetings, in police wagons, and in jail cells as they fought for justice and equality. A unique mix of historical documentary and contemporary musical performance, the film features new performances by top artists including John Legend, Joss Stone, Wyckleff Jean, and The Roots; riveting archival footage; and interviews with civil rights foot soldiers and leaders, including Congressman John Lewis, Harry Belafonte, Julian Bond, Andrew Young and dozens more.

#### TEACHING STRATEGIES

**UC Berkeley History-Social Science Project.** <http://ucbhssp.berkeley.edu/content/teachers>

This organization bridges the University of California, Berkeley academy and K-12 communities to help teachers strengthen their instructional practice and provide equitable educational opportunities to all students, through a model of learning, practicing, and doing. UC Berkeley offers professional development training and resources on teaching historical thinking skills within the context of a diverse array of topics.

**Facing History and Ourselves.**

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# TEACHER'S GUIDE

## Additional Resources

### MISSION US: "No Turning Back"

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<https://www.facinghistory.org/>

This international educational and professional development nonprofit organization engages students of diverse backgrounds in an examination of racism, prejudice, and antisemitism in order to promote the development of a more humane and informed citizenry by providing lesson plans that reflect these topics as well as teaching strategies and professional development. Included on their website are resources on "Bearing Witness to Japanese American Incarceration."

**Library of Congress, Teaching with Primary Sources.**

<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/>

The Library of Congress offers classroom materials and professional development to help teachers effectively use primary sources from the Library's vast digital collections in their teaching. Find Library of Congress lesson plans and more that meet Common Core standards, state content standards, and the standards of national organizations.

**Stanford History Education Group.**

<https://sheg.stanford.edu/>

Strategies such as "Reading Like a Historian" and "Civic Online Reasoning" are featured here. Lesson plans engage students in historical inquiry and teach them to critically evaluate news articles.

### ORAL HISTORY

**Library of Congress Collection: Civil Rights History Project**

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/civil-rights-history-project/about-this-collection/>

A collection of oral histories from those who participated in the civil rights movement, recorded and compiled in the 2010s.

**Oral Histories of the American South (UNC): The Civil Rights Movement**

[https://docsouth.unc.edu/sohp/civil\\_rights.html](https://docsouth.unc.edu/sohp/civil_rights.html)



# TEACHER'S GUIDE

## Additional Resources

### MISSION US: "No Turning Back"

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