

Guiding Question: How did Jim Crow laws and customs restrict the lives of African Americans in the South?

Mission Reflection

After completing the Prologue and Part 1, discuss the questions below:

1. Which memento from Granddaddy's life (the UNIA pin, the school bus photo, or the book of poetry) did you choose for Verna to take, and why?
2. Name two people Addie and Verna meet in Greenwood who made a big impression on you. What did you notice and learn about each, and their role in the community?
3. On your shopping day in Greenwood as Addie, you may have been treated rudely by a salesperson, or been worried at the drinking fountain. How did these experiences make you feel? Why did they arise? What was your response?
4. Describe at least one way that Jim Crow laws and customs impacted Verna and Addie's day in Greenwood.

Time: 10–15 minutes

Instructions

Take 5 minutes to have students use these questions to reflect on their gameplay, individually or in small groups.

In a 10-minute discussion, ask students to describe their experiences learning about Verna, her family, and her experiences learning to navigate life in Greenwood under Jim Crow.

In the Part 1 shopping trip to Greenwood, students experience key elements of Jim Crow from the perspective of a young Black person — rigidly segregated streets, rude treatment by salespeople, white and 'colored' drinking fountains. They experience the strength and mutual support of members of Greenwood's Black community.

In the discussion, encourage students to share 1) their feelings about the treatment they experienced, and how that treatment reflects customs and laws under Jim Crow; 2) the possibilities of resistance they found, small and large, to these conditions; and 3) the resources and resilience of Greenwood's African American community in the face of these conditions.

Additional optional discussion questions:

- Who are all of Verna's family members and friends that you met? What are your impressions of each of them?
- What decisions did you have to make about where to shop and what to buy? Which choices were easy and which were hard?
- Think about a time that an adult instructed you about how to behave in order to stay safe. What was the situation? How did you respond?