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# Citizenship Workbook

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE  
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#### CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION PROGRAM

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The Citizenship Education Program is conducted in cooperation with the American  
Missionary Association Division of the United Church of Christ.

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## FOREWORD

One of the basic weapons in the fight against prejudice and loss of human rights is education. The fine edge on that weapon is understanding. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference Citizenship program is designed to acquaint citizens with the way in which our government is run and to help them meet voting requirements. It is devoted to helping adults help themselves by learning how to solve their community problems. Reading and writing skills are invaluable in such a program. The Citizenship School is so organized that those who lack these skills may acquire them. It is in these ways that we strive to improve the lot of all citizens and extend the boundaries of democracy and full freedom for all.

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**



Dr. King and S.C.L.C. Vice-President, Dr. C. O. Simpkins confer with Attorney  
General Kennedy on voting problems in the Deep South.



## The Purpose of the Citizenship School

The Citizenship Schools are for adults. Their immediate program is literacy. They enable students to pass literacy tests for voting. There is also involved in the mechanics of learning to read and write an all-round education in community development which includes housing, recreation, health, and improved home life. Specific subjects are emphasized such as safe driving, social security, cooperatives, the income tax, an understanding of tax-supported resources such as water testing for wells and aid for handicapped children, and the structure and function of our local and national government.

The Citizenship Schools provide a service to the people which is not available through any other private or public program at the present time.

They are open to all people of a community who face problems related to first-class citizenship and want to do something about them.



## The Southern Christian Leadership Conference

On January 10, 1957, more than 100 Southern leaders gathered in Atlanta, Georgia, to share and discuss problems of the Southern struggle. This group voted to form a permanent organization that would serve as an agency for groups using the technique and philosophy of non-violence in creative protest. In March 1957 in New Orleans, Louisiana, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference came into being. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was elected president.

Dr. King, the son of a Baptist minister, was born in Atlanta, Georgia. Early in his life he developed a great sensitivity to the suffering of oppressed people and has dedicated his life to helping remove such suffering. Dr. King was greatly influenced by his Christian up-bringing and the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi. His creative use of the philosophy of nonviolence and his conviction that "America cannot remain half segregated and half free" makes him one of the most effective civil rights leaders of our time. His leadership in the Montgomery bus boycott brought him into national prominence and his continuing participation in direct action in the current efforts to gain first class citizenship has made his name a banner to follow for millions of Americans all over the country.

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference is made up of organizations all across the South. The formation of its basic policy is the responsibility of an Executive Board. The Board has representatives from the entire South.

A large number of ministers have come to the front as leaders in the organization because the Negro ministers in the South have been the community leaders and champions of the Negro's civil liberties.

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference believes in Christian nonviolence. Its activities revolve around two points: the use of non-violent philosophy as a means of creative protest, and securing the right of the ballot for every citizen. It has for its aim the achievement of full citizenship rights, equality, and the integration of the Negro in all aspects of American life.



## The Bible And The Ballot

The first words of Jesus' public ministry were:

"The spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
Because he has anointed me to preach  
Good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives . . .  
To set at liberty those who are oppressed,  
To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord." (Luke 4:18)

This was Jesus' work and now it is ours. We are to release the captives of this segregated society, and bring liberty to those who are oppressed. We must preach the good news of equality and brotherhood to the poor. The time is ready for all God's children to learn to live together in peace and justice.

In America we change things through the ballot. The Constitution allows each man a vote for what he thinks to be the right way. In 1870 the fifteenth amendment was passed which gave all men the right to vote, regardless of race, color or previous condition of servitude. Now if we want justice, freedom, peace, and equal rights, we must vote for people who will consider these things important. Every election is a chance to vote for good.

When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we pray, "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." This world can be more like God's Kingdom if men will learn to care for the poor and needy: if we can help to feed the hungry in other lands and ours; if each is concerned about the well-being of his neighbor and if each votes for persons who share these same human ideals.

The ballot is in our hands, to vote for good for all mankind.

Discuss the following questions:

1. What would happen in your community if faith in God was put aside and violence took over?
2. If you are not registered to vote, do you think you are doing justice to yourself and your fellow man?
3. We have a task which Jesus himself set before us, how can we best accomplish this work?

## REVIEW YOUR READING – IMPROVE YOUR WRITING

For many years Negroes were forced to suffer in broken down school buildings. One teacher taught many grades. Children stopped school to pick cotton, dig potatoes, cut okra or crop tobacco. On cold days the girls huddled around a pot-bellied stove, while the boys cut wood. The building had a few lights, many broken windows, and a scratched up blackboard. The teachers did the best they could, but it is a miracle that any of us learned anything.

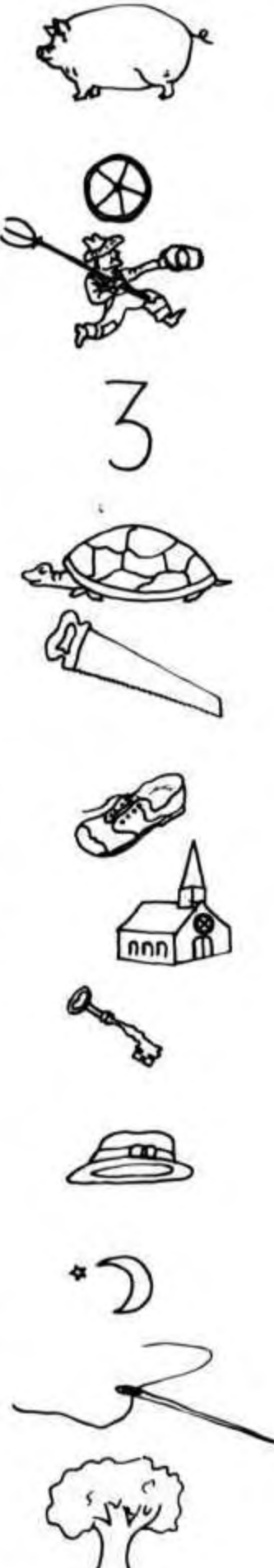
Now there are more opportunities for young Negroes. Schools are better and buses are provided. But what of those who went to school prior to 1950. We still need to know many things to live in the modern world. Reading is the key to this knowledge. That is why we are going to brush up on our reading.

Writing is also important. Now we have an opportunity to improve our hand writing. This will help us fill out the blanks to become Registered Voters.

Registered Voters are First Class Citizens.

# Sound Chart

p  
wh  
f  
th  
t  
s  
sh  
ch  
k  
h  
m  
n  
tr



b  
w  
v  
d  
z  
j  
g  
l  
r  
y  
q  
u  
- x  
- ng



## Make words out of the alphabet, then use them in sentences and stories

- a attorney - amendments - abridged - area - alderman
- b bell - bull - bale - bundle - basket
- c Chatham - congressional - county - circuit - citizen - Constitution - city
- d dollar - definition - dawn - district - day-break
- e exercises - election - elect - executive - electorate - elector
- f federal - farm - felony - furrows
- g Georgia - government - governor - govern - general
- h Habeas Corpus - household
- i imprisonment - intelligent - instruction - invasion - individual
- j judicial - jurors - judge - judgment - justice
- k knowledge - kind - kill
- l labor - law - legislative - legal
- m magistrate - mayor - misdemeanor - motivation
- n national - nation - Negro - necessary - nominate - nomination
- o opportunity - occupy - office - official
- p penitentiary - provide - punishable - privilege - pardons - presiding - power - paroles - propose
- q questions - quiet - quarrel - quick
- r representatives - rebellion - register - resident - registration
- s succeeds - senator - safety - supreme - secretary - several - superintendent - solicitor - sheriff - suspension
- t treasurer - trial - treason - term - testimony
- u union - United States - uniform
- v valid - vital - voucher - vouch - voter - votes - voting
- w witness - workshop - world - White House
- x X-Ray
- y youth - youthful - yawn - yard - year - yarn
- z zone - zoning - zero

## Make little words from registration



state	train	on	rain
register	sit-in	it	Etta
station	is	at	Rita
strain	tag	strange	tar
rotten	get	ten	ton
treat	stranger	grate	great

**Use some of the above words to make a story.**

**(Sample)**

Etta and Rita met ten students at the train station. For ten minutes the rain came down in torrents. It made great holes in the roads. It splashed off the tar roofs and flowed into drains on the side of the curb. It looked as if a ton of rotten leaves were being carried into strange openings made by the water.

Suddenly the rain stopped, the sun came out and we went with the students to register. It was such a treat to look into the eyes of each stranger and see the satisfaction each had as the testing period ended. The great strain was over. Now each can wear a tag which reads "I have registered, have you?"

**The words below come from the word GOVERNMENT.**

Make sentences out of these words.

move	got
over	govern
toe	term
me	men

**(Sample)**

The men had to move over to make room for me on the bench.

In the last term of office the mayor appointed aldermen to the newly made districts.



**OUR TEACHER TRAINING CENTER**  
Dorchester Center, McIntosh, Georgia. One of many properties established by the American Missionary Association for the betterment of Negroes after the Civil War.

## **FIRST RATE HANDWRITING FOR FIRST CLASS CITIZENS**

Writing is one way that you share with others the things that are on your mind. It is important to have a handwriting that others can read. A strong, sure handwriting shows that you are a strong sure person. All our First Class Citizens should have a first rate handwriting.

As you improve your writing, new worlds of pleasure will open and old fears will pass away. You will enjoy writing your friends. You will be able to write to your newspaper and express your views on the events of your community. You can write your Congressman or Senator to help him to vote for things that will help our people, and you will not be shy about filling out job application blanks, signing your name to your checks or registering to vote.

Everyone can improve his handwriting. Even doctors and businessmen can profit by a few hours practice on forming their letters correctly. You will feel better about writing as you learn to write better.

## A Guide For Good Writing

THESE ARE CAPITAL LETTERS

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

I

THESE ARE SMALL LETTERS

a

b

c

d

e

f

g

h

i

j

k

L

m

n

O

p

q

R

S

t

u

v

w

x

y

z

aa

bb

cc

<i>T</i>	<i>t</i>
<i>U</i>	<i>u</i>
<i>V</i>	<i>v</i>
<i>W</i>	<i>w</i>
<i>X</i>	<i>x</i>
<i>Y</i>	<i>y</i>
<i>Z</i>	<i>z</i>

## How to Write my Name and Address on a Mail Order Blank

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occupation \_\_\_\_\_



### New Words to Study

letter	five	important	parts
trip	this	watered	sincerely
August	here	gone	dear

**Directions:**

1. Say these words to your teacher.
2. Spell these words aloud.
3. Use these words in sentences.
4. Write these words.
5. Divide them into parts.
6. Find their meanings.

## Writing a Friendly Letter

(Heading) 611 West Broad Street  
Savannah, Georgia  
April 28, 1961

(Greeting) Dear Harry,

Sue and I are going on a trip. We will be gone ten days. We want you to take care of the vegetable garden and the flower garden for us. I will pay you for the work you do.

The vegetables and flowers will have to be watered every day. They will have to be hoed, too.

If you can do this, let me know.

(Closing) Sincerely yours,

(Signature) Jim Davis

## Practice Lesson

Write a letter to a friend. Your letter should have five important parts.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal black ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines in total. The top three lines are slightly shorter than the rest, suggesting they might be part of a header or margin area. The bottom two lines are also slightly shorter, indicating a footer or another margin area. The central portion of the page contains the longest lines, providing ample space for writing.

**Check your letter to see whether it is correct or not.**

Draw a line under each word that you know. Study the words that you do not know.

letter	important	sincerely	August	watered	trip
five	this	parts	here	gone	dear

## How To Fill In A Money Order Blank

1. How the money order blank looks (simplified and slightly enlarged):

Front		Back	
UNITED STATES POSTAL MONEY ORDER		10-52,887,803	
VOID IF ALTERED PAY AMOUNT IN THIS BLOCK BUT NOT MORE THAN DOLLARS		10-52,887,803	
<div> <div>Dollars</div> <div>Cents</div> </div>		<div> <div>Dollars</div> <div>Cents</div> </div>	
Information below to be filled in by purchaser		Purchaser's Receipt Fill in Other Side DETACH AND HOLD	
PAY TO _____ Payee's name		This Receipt Must Be Presented in Case of Loss.	
FROM _____ Purchaser's name			
Please Cash Promptly _____ Purchaser's street address			
_____ State			
IF C.O.D., No. here: _____ Do Not Fold, Staple, Spindle or Mutilate			
		Sent To	
		Address	

2. Where to fill in the blank:

Front	Back
DO NOT WRITE HERE	DO NOT WRITE HERE
PAY TO _____ Payee's name	
FROM _____ Purchaser's name	
_____ State	
_____ State	
	Sent To
	Address

## COUNTING YOUR BLESSINGS

We go to the store, we count our change, we pay insurance or receive welfare benefits. All these things require arithmetic. Let us learn to count our blessings as we become First Class Citizens.

## Beginners' Arithmetic

Add:

5	6	7	4	8	6	7
3	3	3	4	1	2	2

Peggy planted 3 rose bushes the first day. She planted 6 rose bushes the second day. Peggy planted \_\_\_\_ rose bushes in all.

Add the scores:

3	4	1	2	2	1
3	0	5	1	5	4
2	2	0	3	1	2



Draw a line from each number to the right word:

4	tenth
6	second
10	fourth
9	seventh
2	sixth
7	fifth
5	ninth

Subtract:

8	9	8	9	8	9	8	9	8
<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>

Two of the 8 flowers on the teacher's desk had to be thrown away. There are \_\_\_\_ flowers left.

**Multiply:**

Sam earns \$1.00 an hour. In 2 hours he earns \$\_\_\_\_. Bob banked 25¢ each week for four weeks. He banked \$\_\_\_\_ in four weeks.

**Divide:**

A book costs 25 cents. Mike must earn \_\_\_\_ nickels to buy the book.  
 In 90 cents there are \_\_\_\_ dimes.  
 Also, in 90 cents there are \_\_\_\_ nickels.  
 Fifty cents is the same as \_\_\_\_ dimes.  
 It is also the same as \_\_\_\_ nickels.  
 A dollar will buy as much as \_\_\_\_ half dollars.

**Add the amounts in each bank book:**

Mike's	Betty's	Sue's	Dick's
\$1.00	\$2.00	\$ .25	\$1.50
.25	.05	.50	.05
.10	.50	.25	.05
<u>.35</u>	<u>.25</u>	<u>.10</u>	<u>.15</u>

**Find one half:**

1/2 of 4 =	1/2 of 10 =	1/2 of 6 =
1/2 of 12 =	1/2 of 16 =	1/2 of 18 =

**Divide:**

2)22	2)26	2)24	2)44	2)84
------	------	------	------	------

**Multiply:**

$\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$
--	--	--	--	--

4 × 6 =	4 × 5 =	4 × 7 =
4 × 3 =	4 × 9 =	4 × 8 =

Five 5's are ____	Nine 5's are ____
Six 5's are ____	Four 5's are ____
Seven 5's are ____	Three 5's are ____

**Find the cost:**

Three 3¢ stamps cost \_\_\_\_ cents.  
 Five 4¢ stamps cost \_\_\_\_ cents.  
 Four 7¢ stamps cost \_\_\_\_ cents.

Ten students were arrested in the sit-in movement and were fined \$75.00 apiece. How much fine was paid?

We sent eight people down to register each day for thirty days. How many people were registered? \_\_\_\_

## Advanced Arithmetic

<b>Add:</b>	\$1.10	1.00	33.45
	.63	4.65	7.86
	2.05	2.84	14.95
	<u>+ .87</u>	<u>+ 5.19</u>	<u>+ 8.40</u>

James helped his father haul cotton. They hauled 235 bales of cotton on Monday, 262 bales on Tuesday, 287 bales on Wednesday, and 320 bales on Thursday. They hauled \_\_\_\_ bales of cotton in four days.

The Crusade for Voters sent 187 people to register in January, 210 people in February, and 422 people in March. How many people were registered in three months?

<b>Subtract:</b>	438	979	1451	8453
	<u>-299</u>	<u>-689</u>	<u>- 989</u>	<u>- 965</u>



A gasoline station filled the storage tanks with 5125 gallons of gasoline. The station sold 3785 gallons and had \_\_\_\_\_ gallons left in storage.

Mr. Smith sold his farm for \$1375.00. He paid \$750.00 for it two years before. How much profit did Mr. Smith make on selling his farm? \_\_\_\_\_

Multiply:

$\begin{array}{r} 312 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 758 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 36 \\ \times 12 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 543 \\ \times 23 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 1663 \\ \times 261 \\ \hline \end{array}$
--	--	--	---	---

By buying one dozen pairs of hosiery, at ninety-eight cents a pair, how much did you spend? \_\_\_\_\_

If you made three automobile trips to Atlanta and it is 735 miles round-trip for each trip, how many miles have you traveled? \_\_\_\_\_

Divide:

$7 \overline{)709}$	$14 \overline{)3962}$	$8 \overline{)\$120.64}$	$875 \overline{)\$1881.25}$
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Gerald planted 35 acres of wheat, using  $1\frac{2}{5}$  bushels of seed an acre. At \$2.25 a bushel, the wheat cost \$\_\_\_\_\_.

A teacher had 35 pupils in her room. Of this number  $\frac{2}{5}$  were working on a play, and  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the remainder were working on art. She allowed  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the pupils still remaining to read in the library. This left \_\_\_\_\_ pupils to help clean the room.

Divide a whole number by a fraction:

$2 \div \frac{1}{3} =$	$45 \div \frac{3}{5} =$	$48 \div \frac{6}{8} =$
$6 \div \frac{1}{4} =$	$35 \div \frac{5}{7} =$	$192 \div \frac{8}{9} =$

Find the products:

$\begin{array}{r} 48 \\ 12 \frac{1}{4} \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 56 \frac{2}{9} \\ 36 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 107 \frac{2}{3} \\ 69 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 80550 \\ 709 \frac{7}{9} \\ \hline \end{array}$
---	---	--	---

Divide these fractions by fractions:

$\frac{1}{2} \div \frac{1}{2} =$	$\frac{1}{3} \div \frac{4}{9} =$	$\frac{2}{7} \div \frac{4}{7} =$
$\frac{5}{6} \div \frac{7}{8} =$	$\frac{3}{4} \div \frac{3}{8} =$	$\frac{8}{9} \div 1\frac{1}{12} =$

## NEW THINGS TO READ AND DISCUSS

### Social Security

Your social security card is the key to your social security account. It is important to you.

Your card shows you have an insurance account with the United States Government.

Your account is a record of the pay you receive which counts toward old age and survivors insurance benefits. The size of benefits will depend upon the amount of wages credited to your account.

When an insured worker dies, a lump sum payment may be made to the widow or widower or to the person who paid the funeral expenses.

Any social security district office will help you to check your social security account, to explain your rights and duties and the insurance benefits you and your family may receive, and to help you or your survivors to file claim for benefits when the time comes.

Social security is family protection.

### Good Manners

When other people are talking, I listen. Harry likes me to listen when he talks. Sue likes me to listen when she talks. One has good manners if he listens when others talk. When I talk I want other people to hear me.

I talk about things my friends are interested in. I speak so that everyone can understand me. It is not polite to do all the talking. Everyone likes to talk some.

My friends like to tell me about their jobs. They like to discuss their community problems with me. I like to tell them about my job and my children. Sue likes to talk about local politics. She discusses with her friends the ways they can share in the running of their city.

When your friend is talking, do not interrupt. It is not polite to interrupt. Everyone likes people to listen when he talks.



## New Words to Study

manners	everyone	things	polite
their	so	something	interrupt
hear	other	she	one

### Be Polite

Introduce a new friend to your other friends. When you introduce a man to a woman, call the woman's name first. When you introduce a younger person to an older person, call the older person's name first.

Tell something about the new friend you are introducing. Tell your old friends something about the new friend. Say the names of the persons clearly. Be polite and introduce your friends.

### Our America

Our United States of America is the home of a great American nation. We are a part of that great nation. All people who live in North America and in South America are Americans. We are Americans, too.

We love this great land. It has given us our living for many years. It holds opportunities for our children and grandchildren.

Day by day we silently pour the concrete of love into the furious, violent ocean of hate. Some day that concrete will build a foundation that will support a bridge to span the channel and open lines of communication to all peoples.

Our hearts are filled with the spirit of brotherhood, and our hands move forward, defying all acts of violence.

The Supreme Court building, where the Justices decide legal disagreements, is the symbol of law. The Capitol, where our Senators and Representatives make the laws, is the symbol of free, representative government. The White House, where the President lives and his Cabinet meets, is the symbol of our country in world affairs. We accept the results of elections and abide by the rulings of the courts.

We in America know that voting is important for good citizenship, but we know that educating our children so they will vote wisely is a part of good citizenship, too. They have to know how to stand up for their rights.

In America we want law and justice.

We love our land—America!

## The Power of Non-Violence

When Jesus said, "If a man smite thee on one cheek, turn to him the other also," he was introducing mankind to a new way of life—a way of life which overcomes evil through love. This simple New Testament truth was put into practice by Mahatma Gandhi in India. Under his leadership, the Indian people won their freedom from the British without firing a shot. Their weapon was moral force, or truth force as Gandhi called it.

The idea of non-violence first received widespread attention in the United States when a young Baptist minister, The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., led the people of Montgomery, Alabama in a non-violent protest against discourtesy and segregation on the busses of that city. These people walked to work for 381 days to demonstrate the fact that they were tired of being cursed and abused on the busses. Though their homes and churches were bombed, though they were thrown into prison, they did not strike back. They won the respect of the entire world and many of their oppressors, because they refused to be dragged down to the level of animal hatred and violence. During all these months they demonstrated that one may overcome an enemy through love and transform him into a friend.

If a man returns evil for evil, one bad deed leads to another until one enemy is destroyed. We have no desire to destroy those who oppress us, we want them to understand and respect us. Therefore we take it upon ourselves to love them no matter what they do to us. We will not give in, nor will we attempt to do violence to them. Soon we see that our enemies begin to see our side of the story. When we don't fight back, they are forced to think about why we don't. This is the beginning of understanding. Understanding is the stepping stone to true brotherhood.

### Things To Do

Answer these questions by filling in the blanks:

1. The weapon used to gain freedom in India was \_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ led the first non-violence movement in Montgomery.
3. For 381 days people walked in order to gain \_\_\_\_\_.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is the stepping stone to true brotherhood.

Discuss the following questions:

1. What would happen in your town if minority groups used violent means to solve their problems?
2. What happens when nothing is done to overcome community problems?
3. How can non-violence be used in your community?

## New Words to Study

introduce	younger	person	call
first	woman	clearly	new



# One Hundred Years From Slavery

The first African slaves were brought to America in 1619. This was only a few years after the first white settlers. These strong young men were stolen from their tribes in Africa. They were needed to clear the trees to make farm land and roads. They planted and harvested the crops.

These slaves were chained and crowded into ships under animal conditions. Many died of sickness. Others jumped overboard determined to die rather than be enslaved. Still others planned revolts and attempted to fight for their freedom. Some escaped to freedom, others were returned to slavery, but their spirits remained free. The sound of freedom came out of their hearts, and gave us the Negro spirituals.

Slavery was a degrading experience for the Negro but the progress of the last one hundred years and the rugged determination to be free makes our heritage glorious.

In the twentieth century, we see the fruits of this longing for freedom. The new Negro in America is standing up, demanding first class citizenship. In Africa and Asia new nations are being born as people of color everywhere are demanding the freedom to decide their destiny.

## Heroes Of The Past

### CRISPUS ATTUCKS

This man was one of our first freedom fighters. America was only a colony. It had not yet become a country. England made the laws. England made the colonies pay taxes but would not let them be represented in the government. This is very much like the Negroes problem of voting in parts of the South today. England said to the people "You just pay the taxes, you can't tell us what to do with the tax money." This made the people angry.

It was on a cold winter night in Boston that the people were very angry about this. Some of the young men started an argument with one of the English soldiers near the docks. Many people rushed to see what was going on. They began to shout "Drive them out." They wanted the English to leave their country.

Leading the people was Crispus Attucks, a tall handsome Negro, big as a giant. He had worked on a whaling ship and knew the docks well. He shouted to the people, "The way to get rid of the soldiers is to attack the main guard! Strike at the root! This is the nest! As the people with sticks, clubs and snow balls went toward the soldiers, the soldiers fired their guns.

The first shot killed Crispus Attucks. He was the first man to die for our country's freedom.

The people of Boston were very angry. They knew they were being treated unfairly. A few years later the war of Independence was fought and on July 4, 1776 we became a free country. The Negro yet has to win his freedom. As Crispus Attucks helped by giving his life we can help by giving our vote.

## Things To Do

Put the correct answers in the blanks:

1. Before America became a country, the laws were made by \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The people had to pay taxes but could not \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The leader of the people was \_\_\_\_\_.
4. We can help bring freedom by \_\_\_\_\_.

## Questions To Discuss

1. What is a colony?
2. How was the problem of taxes like Negroes problem of voting?
3. Why did Crispus Attucks lead the people when the soldiers had guns?
4. What does July 4th mean?

## SOJOURNER TRUTH

Even though she was born in New York, Sojourner suffered as much as her Southern sisters. She slept in a cellar which had a floor of loose boards on the ground. In winter the water that settled turned to ice, her bed was made of straw and a blanket. She was sold into slavery many times before she was even 12 years old.

When she became a grown woman a law was passed in New York that freed her, but her master tried to keep her longer. She ran away early one morning with her small son, Peter.

Sojourner's real name was Isabella. When Peter went off to sea and things seemed darkest for her; she told her employer she was changing her name. She said she was going to preach the truth and would be called from then on Sojourner Truth. She said the Spirit called her and she must go. She roamed all over speaking against slavery and its evils. She would go to a meeting anywhere and stand up and ask for the floor to speak. She also spoke up for the rights of women.

When the Civil War began she helped to care for the wounded soldiers and to find work for the slaves just freed. She strongly believed in the power of the ballot as well as in ownership of land, and education in agriculture and the trades. She did all she could to help her people. Before she died she said, "I isn't going to die, honey, I's going home like a shooting star."

## Things To Do

Make a list of words in the story ending in ly, ing, ed, s and find out what they mean.

## Questions to Discuss

1. Why do you think Sojourner spoke against slavery?
2. In what ways did she help her people?
3. Is the ballot still powerful?



## BENJAMIN BANNEKER

Benjamin Banneker's father was a slave who was able to buy his freedom. He worked very hard. He bought a farm. It was here Benjamin spent his life.

Benjamin was a very intelligent boy, he loved to take things apart and put them together again. When he was twenty-two years old he made a clock that would not only tell time but strike too.

When he was older he put out a series of almanacs, wrote about the bees and even said that the locust plague would come every seventeen years. He was also one of the men that helped plan the city of Washington, D. C., our capital. Benjamin read many books about the stars. He was an astronomer. He was so interested in the stars that he studied them at night. He would sleep all day. Because his days and nights were turned around his neighbors said he was lazy.

He was concerned about mankind. He thought and wrote about many ways to help others. He wrote Thomas Jefferson in regard to slavery and its injustices. He wrote about peace for all nations.

Benjamin Banneker had a good mind and he used it well. Any man with a university degree would be proud to know the things that Benjamin Banneker learned by just reading.

### Things To Do

Answer these questions by filling in the blanks:

1. Benjamin Banneker made a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. He helped to plan the city of \_\_\_\_\_.
3. He studied the \_\_\_\_\_ at night.
4. Benjamin Banneker lived on a \_\_\_\_\_.

### Questions to Discuss

1. Why do we say that Benjamin Banneker used his mind well?
2. Did he help his people? How?
3. How do people sometimes misunderstand each other, just as people said Benjamin was lazy?

## HARRIET TUBMAN

Here was a brave soul! Harriet Tubman worked hard to buy her freedom. She cut wood, plowed fields and drove oxen. After she was free she could not forget her people that were still slaves. She made trip after trip back into the South to lead others to freedom. In all, she made seventeen (17) trips and led 300 slaves to freedom.

They walked through the swamps, hid in the woods and crept through the night. They were always afraid they would be found, beaten and taken back. Some were so afraid they wanted to turn back. When this moment of weakness came and they wanted to return to their masters, Harriet would pull out a little pistol. She would point it at them and say, "You go on or die." They chose to go on.

Harriet Tubman trusted in God. She had no doubts, Her prayer was something like this, "Lord, you've been with me in six troubles, be with me in the seventh."

After the war Harriet lived to a ripe old age. When she thought back over her trips and the dangers involved she said, "On my underground railroad I never run my train off the track and I never lost a passenger".

### Things To Do

Draw a line under each word with the same first sound.

**TR**ack (TR) Trip, train, the, trusted

**TH**at (TH) through, they, taken, this, to

**FR**edom (F) found, afraid, free, field

### Questions to Discuss

1. Was Harriet Tubman very brave?
2. How did her faith help her?
3. Should she have pointed a gun at the people? Why?

## MARY McCLEOD BETHUNE

"All my life I have worked with youth. I have begged for them and fought for them and lived for them and in them," said Mary McCleod Bethune born in Mayesville, South Carolina, July 10, 1875.

"My limited educational advantages can be seen in all struggling boys and girls. My road has not been an easy one. Very few of my generation found life easy or wanted it that way. Your road may be less rugged because of the struggles we have made. The doors of progress and advancement will open to the steady persistent pressure of your skilled hands, trained minds, stout hearts, and your prayers more readily than they opened to me."

There were seventeen children in the family and all were slaves along with their parents except Mary Jane and the two younger ones.

One day her mother went to the big house on the plantation and left Mary outside. Mary wandered into the white children's play house, picked up a book only to have it snatched away by a white child who said "put down that book! you can't read!"

"I wasn't going to hurt it," said Mary. "Books are for people who can read," said the girl angrily.

The words hurt Mary deeply and from then on she resolved that she would learn to read. White folks have so much and black folks so little. Why is it that way. It must be the reading and writing. "I must learn to read."



At the age of 9 she was picking 250 lbs. of cotton a day and taking care of the cow both morning and night. She started school that same year and walked 10 miles round trip each day. At 12 she received a scholarship to Scotia Seminary in Concord, North Carolina. At 19 another scholarship to Moody's Bible Institute in Chicago, Illinois. At 20 she went to New York to ask the Presbyterian Board of Missions for a station in Africa only to be told that there was no opening for a Negro in Africa at that time. "This was the greatest disappointment in her life," she said. "Those were cruel days."

With crushed hopes and a heavy heart she accepted a teaching job at Haines Normal Institute in Augusta, Georgia. There she met and was married to Albertus Bethune. He was teaching in Savannah, Georgia. Her baby boy came there and she decided to help the world offer her child chances. She could not find a teaching job in Savannah so departed for Palatka, Florida. When the child was 5 years old she went to Daytona, Florida and there on a public dump heap in 1904 she opened officially Daytona Educational and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls. A small house of seven rooms with a well, an outdoor toilet and kerosene lamps housed the students, five girls and one boy ages 8-12.

At the age of 48 she yielded her treasure to the Methodist Church to develop and use as a new coeducational school called Daytona-Cookman Collegiate Institute.

In 1924 her friends and admirers gave her a trip abroad and the trustees of her school changed the school's name to Bethune-Cookman College.

As her personality unfolded to reveal her true greatness she moved out into the main stream of national affairs and became an adviser to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, later on she became administrator of the office of Minority Affairs of the National Youth Administration.

In 1950 she visited her home and after sixty years found that the old school she attended battered and worn was still the only school open to the Negro Children of Mayesville.

She shook her aged head. There was much yet to be done! Unequal educational opportunities, inadequate housing and poverty.

The white mansions of the slave owners were gone. She once held them in awe but when she remembered the childhood episode in the playhouse of the Wilson grandchildren she prayed a prayer that the day may come when no child anywhere in the world will have to flinch under the stinging words "Put down that book, You can't read."

She died in 1955.

## PLANNING A VOTER REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN

A good citizen must be a registered voter. But the job does not stop there. We cannot rest until every citizen is a registered voter. You have been helped to register through this citizenship course. It is now your turn to help your neighbors. Plan a registration drive for your neighborhood or community:

1. Select a Site (neighborhood or town)\_\_\_\_\_
  2. What is the size of the Negro population?\_\_\_\_\_
  3. Number of Registered Voters\_\_\_\_\_
  4. Number of Negroes of Voting age\_\_\_\_\_
  5. How many can we get to register?\_\_\_\_\_
  6. During what period of time? (State dates)\_\_\_\_\_
  7. Area of Concentration\_\_\_\_\_
  8. Number of Volunteer Workers needed to cover area\_\_\_\_\_
  9. Organizations to take part in the drive.\_\_\_\_\_
- (churches, voter's leagues, youth groups, clubs)

## SUGGESTED STEPS FOR A BLOCK PARTY

Have a meeting at your home to help your neighbors to understand the importance of voting, how to register, and where to register.

1. Invite every adult on your street, from corner to corner (In rural communities, select all houses within walking distance) to come to your home for an evening of information and fellowship.
2. Have Voter Registration information and material on hand.
3. Have someone there who can talk on **why, how** and **where** to register.
4. Following speaker, have a discussion on some of your community problems and how voting can help solve them.
5. Tell why your block should have 100% voters.
6. Plan a meeting for the next week to give help to each other. (If possible, arrange to start a Citizenship School.)
7. Plan trips to take people down to register when they are ready.
8. Have someone contact the persons who did not show up at the meeting.







## WADE IN THE WATER

A slave song, said to have been used by Harriet Tubman in the operation of the underground railroad.

### Chorus:

- I. Wade in the water,  
Wade in the water, children  
Wade in the water,  
God's gonna trouble the water.
- II. Some say Peter, some say Paul,  
God's gonna trouble the water  
There ain't but the one God made us all.  
God's gonna trouble the water. (Cho.)
- III. You can hinder me here, you can hinder  
me there,  
But the Lord in heaven will hear my  
prayer. (Cho.)
- IV. The enemy's great, but my captain's  
strong,  
I'm marching to the city and the road  
ain't long. (Cho.)

## DIDN'T MY LORD DELIVER DANIEL

This spiritual is comparable to **Go Down, Moses** for its musical force.

- I. Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel, deliver  
Daniel, deliver Daniel  
Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel, then  
why not every man?
- II. He delivered Daniel from the lion's den,  
Jonah from the belly of the whale.  
The Hebrew children from the fiery  
furnace.  
Then why not every man? (Cho.)
- III. Oh Daniel cast in the lion's den, he  
prayed both night and day.  
The angel came from heaven above and  
showed him the way. (Cho.)

## DONE MADE MY VOW TO BE FREE

- I. Done made my vow to be free and I  
never will turn back.  
I will go, I shall go, to see what the end  
will be.
- II. Sometimes I'm up, sometimes I'm down,  
I will go, I shall go.  
But still my soul is freedom bound,  
To see what the end will be. (Cho.)
- III. I'll climb and climb and never stop,  
Until I reach that mountain top.
- IV. If you get there before I do,  
Tell my friends I'm coming, too.

## WE ARE SOLDIERS IN THE ARMY

### Chorus:

We are soldiers, in the army.  
We've got to fight although we have to cry.  
We've got to hold up the bloodstained  
banner  
We've got to hold it up until we die.

1. My Mother was a soldier,  
she had her hand on the Gospel plow.  
But one day she got old,  
she couldn't fight anymore;  
she said "I'll stand there and  
fight anyhow". (Oh chorus)
2. I'm glad I am a soldier  
I've got my hand on the Gospel plow.  
But one day I'll get old,  
I can't fight anymore, but  
I'll just stand here and fight on  
anyhow. (Oh chorus)
3. I know my soul's been converted  
And that I'm not ashamed,  
I was standing  
There at the table  
When the Angel signed my name.  
(Oh chorus)

**This book belongs to:**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **County** \_\_\_\_\_

**State** \_\_\_\_\_