

# African American Voices Lesson Plans

**Lesson Plan:** African American Timeline:  
A Century of Struggle

**Subject:** Civics, U.S. History, Language Arts

**Grade level:** 7

**NGSSS-SS:** **SS.7.C.3.7-** Demonstrate an understanding of the principles, functions, and organization of government.



**SS.7.3.12-** Analyze the significance and outcomes of landmark Supreme Court cases including but not limited to Plessy v. Ferguson, and Brown v. Board of Education.

**Description/  
Abstract of Lesson:** The students will review vocabulary words as they apply to major events throughout African American history using a time line activity.

**Objective(s):** Students will

- Review vocabulary as it applies to history.
- Review significant events in a chronological fashion.

**Materials:** Handouts of Timeline/Vocabulary Activity

**Duration:** 1 class period

**Lesson Lead In/  
Opening:** As a class, review vocabulary words strongly associated with African American history.

**Activity 1:**

1. Have the students complete the Timeline/Vocabulary Activity. Students are to write appropriate letters representing vocabulary words to complete sentences.
2. Upon completion, review the answers.

**Activity 2:**

1. Using the template for the Timeline/Vocabulary Activity, have the students create their own timeline using vocabulary words not used in the pre-designed assignment.
2. Pair up each student with a partner. Have the partners switch and complete each others' activity.
3. Upon completion, have several students review the questions and answers with the class.

**Assessment:**

- Evaluate pre-made Timeline/Vocabulary Activity based on correct/incorrect answers.

- Evaluate student-made Timeline/Vocabulary Activity based on historical accuracy and appropriate vocabulary meaning.
- Consider cooperation/participation grades for partner-oriented work.
- Consider creativity grade for student-made Timeline/Vocabulary Activity.

### Higher Order

#### Thinking Questions:

1. Why would you suppose that there is usually very little African American history covered in text books between the time period 1865 to 1954?
2. What are two major events related to African Americans that include the word "Civil"? Why do you believe these events can be easily confused by students?
3. If A. Phillip Randolph originally proposed the March on Washington over twenty years before it actually took place then why is he not as well known today as other Civil Rights leaders?
4. What major conflicts did the NAACP have with the UNIA? How did their goals differ? Do you believe there was any possible way they could have worked together?

### Suggested Books

#### In Lesson:

Bennett, L. (1988) Before The Mayflower: A History of Black America, Johnson Pub Co

Mintz, S. W. (1992) The Birth of African-American Culture, Beacon Press

#### Web Resources:

#### Examples of African American History Timelines

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/bhistory/timeline/game.htm>

[http://www.gale.com/free\\_resources/bhm/timeline/](http://www.gale.com/free_resources/bhm/timeline/)

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/history/us/aframer/timeline.shtml>

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/aap/timeline.html>

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/aaworld/timeline.html>

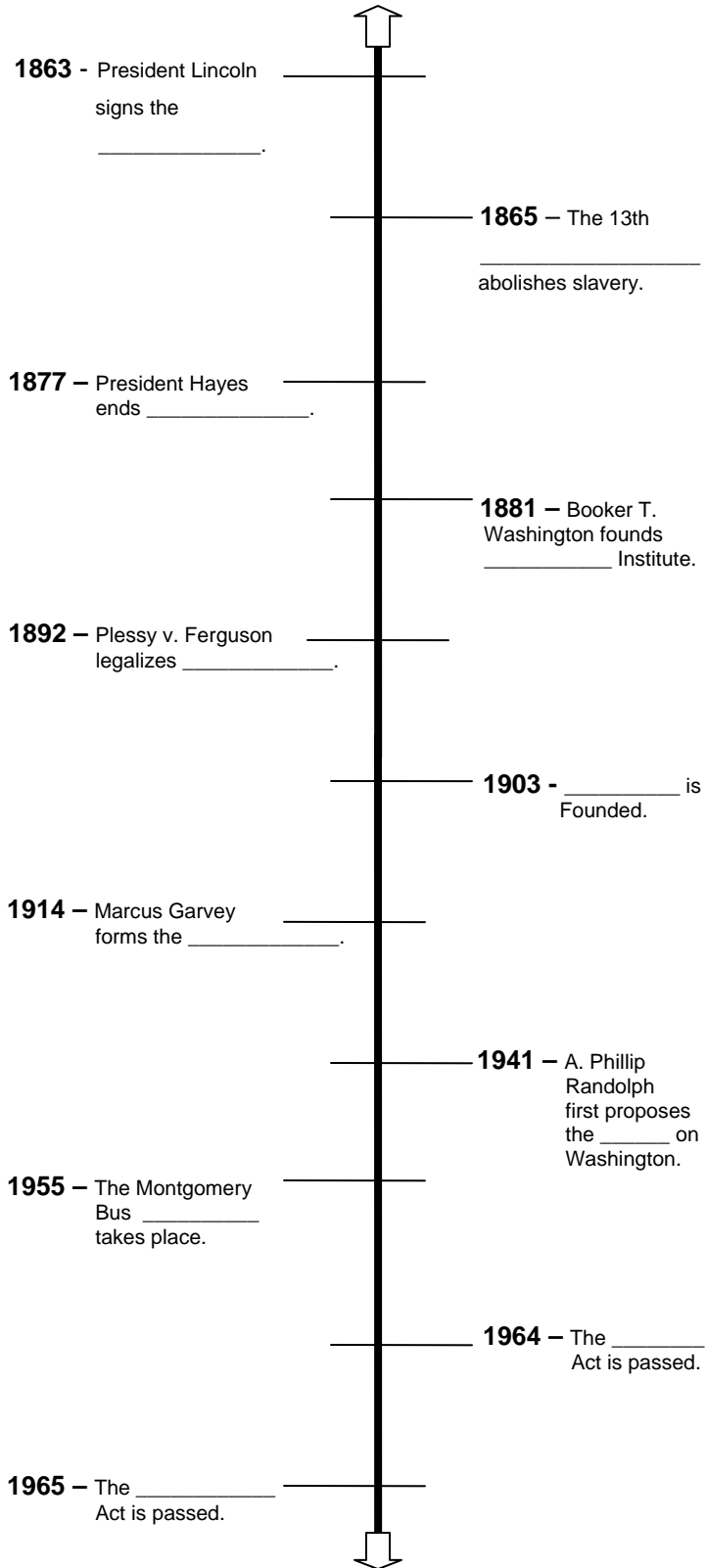
<http://www.blackpast.org/?q=african-american-history-timeline-home-page>

<http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&safe=active&q=black+history+timeline&btnG=Search>

## A Century of Struggle

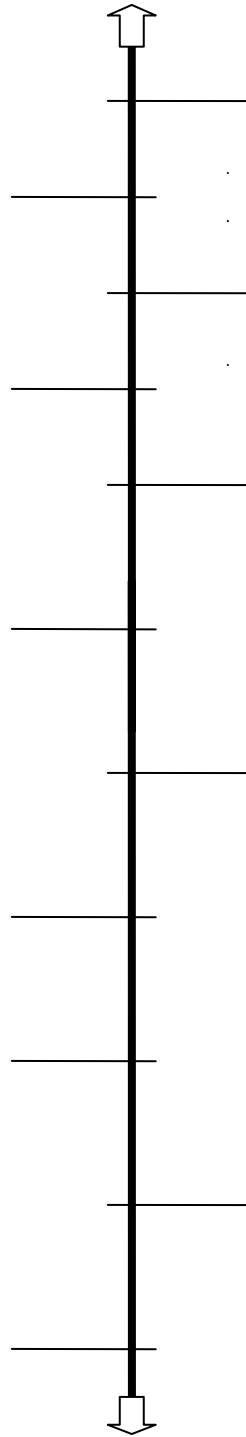
Use what you know from studying about the struggles of African Americans to complete the timeline. Choose the words from the box below that best completes each section. Write the appropriate letters in the blanks.

- A. NAACP
- B. Tuskegee
- C. Boycott
- D. Voting Rights
- E. Emancipation Proclamation
- F. Segregation
- G. UNIA
- H. Civil Rights
- I. March
- J. Reconstruction
- K. Amendment



# Historical Timeline

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