

Unit Guide

Making Sure All of the Voices Are Heard: Uncovering the Hidden Voices of the Civil Rights Movement

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This unit will take a thorough look into the various well-known and unknown activists during the civil rights movement. This two week unit will allow students to define and redefine the impact the Civil Rights Movement has had on their lives, and their families lives, over the past few decades. The unit will require eleventh grade students to challenge what they think they know about the civil rights movement and to create a working definition for the movement. Students will read a variety of scholarly articles from well-known and unheard activist. They will also read parts of a book from another young lady, Claudette Colvin, who stood her ground on the bus by not moving to the back when asked to. The reading of the book will lead to a culminating project where students will be set free to do their own research on the movement. Each student will be asked to conduct research to find a hidden voice and write a newspaper editorial on that person, which will later be presented to the class. It will be through this unit that students will fully understand the impact that the Civil Rights Movement had on society then and now. The unit will show students that just because a person is not in the media or in front of the cameras it does not mean that his/her work is not important to a movement such as the Civil Rights Movement.