



CELEBRATING 200 YEARS • A NEW CENTURY OF SOUL

1819

MEMPHIS

2019

SHELBY COUNTY

2019 MEMPHIS IN MAY FESTIVAL



Tennessee
Academic
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2019 EDUCATION CURRICULUM GUIDE

MEMPHIS IN MAY INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

Celebrates Memphis in 2019

For the first time in its 43-year history, Memphis in May breaks with tradition to make the City of Memphis and Shelby County the year-long focus of its annual salute. Rather than another country, the 2019 Memphis in May Festival honors Memphis and Shelby County as both celebrate their bicentennials and the start of a new century for the city and county.



Memphis has changed the world and will continue to change the world. We are a city of doers, dreamers, and believers. We create, we invent, we experiment; and this year, we invite the world to experience our beautiful home on the banks of the Mississippi River. The Bluff City...Home of the Blues, Soul, and Rock & Roll...a city where "Grit and Grind" are more than our team's slogan, they're who we are: determined, passionate, authentic, soulful, unstoppable.

With more than a million residents in its metro area, the City of Memphis is a city of authenticity and diversity where everyone is welcomed. While some come because of its reputation as a world-renown incubator of talent grown from its rich musical legacy, Memphis draws many to its leading hospital and research systems, putting Memphis at the leading edge of medical and bioscience innovation. Situated nearly in the middle of the United States at the crossroads of major interstates, rail lines, the world's second-busiest cargo airport, and the fourth-largest inland port on the Mississippi River, Memphis moves global commerce as the leader in transportation and logistics. Home to a wide array of businesses from Fortune 500 companies to mom-and-pop barbecue shops, Memphis has a thriving commercial climate and a resurgent downtown with rapid growth on the horizon. Memphis capitalizes on its rich history and culture with multiple award-winning museums and attractions that draw millions of visitors each year from around the world. With all that Memphis and Shelby County has to offer historically, culturally, and economically, it is a privilege for Memphis in May to shine our spotlight on our hometown.

Annually, Memphis in May International Festival produces a curriculum guide as part of its award-winning education program and provides them at no cost to area educators. Rather than a definitive scholarly history of a country (or in this instance, a city/county) the guide is meant as a primer allowing educators to incorporate information about the honored location into their classroom studies. To learn more about Memphis and Shelby County, please refer to the bibliography and additional resources list provided in this guide.

In 2019, join the celebration as Memphis in May International Festival salutes Memphis and Shelby County, Tennessee, celebrating 200 years and a new century of soul.



MAY 22 - OFFICIAL CITY OF MEMPHIS

Bicentennial Quick History

Memphis – like all cities, has a history of both highs and lows. We've been touched by the brightest of mankind, but we've also seen darkness. The one constant in Memphis, however, is our collective and relentless pursuit of positive change to make our city a better place.

We attract the fearless – those with innovative spirits and the drive to create something special. People who rise above and see a brighter future for themselves and others. And it's those people – from Tom Lee and Ida B. Wells to Danny Thomas – who have made Memphis what it is today.

Memphis, with its prime position on the Chickasaw bluff, has always been a magnet for community. The land was claimed and populated by the Chickasaw Native Americans who inhabited the space until European Colonists arrived in the 16th century.

Following the Jackson Purchase in 1818, West Tennessee was opened for settlement by Europeans. And on May 22, 1819, the city was founded by a group of investors including John Overton and James Winchester.

Offering protection from Mississippi floods and with a shelf of sandstone perfect for boat landing, the land atop this bluff was perfectly suited for commerce and began Memphis' economic success. With an economy largely supported by the cotton industry, early Memphis relied heavily on the labor of slaves for its success and continued this model until after the Civil War.

Post-Civil War Memphis, which had been a valuable Union outpost following the capture of the city in the Battle of Memphis, provided an opportunity for African Americans to take their share of Memphis' wealth. Notable businessman Robert Church, Sr. founded the first African American-owned bank in the city and bought real estate – including land on Beale Street – that he used to create a new cultural epicenter for his community. Although they experienced great economic strides in the years following the Civil War, African Americans once again found themselves disenfranchised in a repopulated Memphis following the Yellow Fever Epidemic. With only small gains in their economic status in the early 20th century, African Americans in Memphis wouldn't see true change until the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s.

Following the deaths of sanitation workers Echol Cole and Robert Walker, Memphis sanitation workers officially went on strike in February 1968 to protest the years of discriminatory treatment and demand better working conditions. With support from the African American community, the strikers marched for months and called on Civil Rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. to join them in their protests.

On April 4, 1968, Dr. King was assassinated on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel. Fearing riots, Memphis Mayor Henry Loeb, who initially refused to meet with the strikers and employed methods to undermine them, reached a settlement and the strike officially ended on April 16, 1968. The National Civil Rights Museum now stands at the site of the Lorraine Motel.

With Beale Street as its home, Memphis' sound was uncontainable. W.C. Handy wrote the first blues song published in America – "Memphis Blues" – in 1912. Elvis Presley began his recording career at Memphis' Sun Records. And B.B. King got his soulful start on Beale Street. Memphis' music has a history that spans decades and genres. In the 1960s, the Memphis Sound, a mixture of blues, R&B, and soul, was created at STAX Records featuring the work of Otis Redding, Isaac Hayes, The Bar-Kays and more.

May 22 - Official City of Memphis Bicentennial Continued...

Memphis has always been a city for innovators and groundbreakers – those among us who refuse to accept the status quo, instead creating world-shifting change. This is our greatest legacy and a birthright we continue to embrace today. In the city where the first modern supermarket was created, ideas and innovation now ship goods globally in mere moments; on the streets where music found its soul, a new beat is now being born; and on the grounds where a King of civil rights fell, stands the National Civil Rights Museum – powerfully reminding us that resilience and change are in our DNA.

NOV 24-OFFICIAL SHELBY COUNTY *Bicentennial Quick History*

Overton, Winchester, Jackson, Goodlett and Sanderlin: to many Shelby County residents, these names are merely the names of streets, highways or districts. But before their names became part of our geography, John Overton, Marcus Winchester, Andrew Jackson, J.H. Goodlett and Wilson Sanderlin were pioneers who created the social, economic, educational and governmental paths Shelby County residents still travel. These early settlers were the mayors, public officials and landowners whose contributions literally put Shelby County on the map.

Shelby County was carved out of Chickasaw Indian hunting grounds. This land was purchased, along with the rest of western Tennessee, by the United States for a total of \$300,000. Shelby County was drawn onto Tennessee maps on November 24, 1819, by an act of the state General Assembly.

The first Shelby County Quarterly Court, the forerunner to today's Board of Commissioners, convened on May 1, 1820, and established governmental functions for a new wilderness county. Shelby County government still exists today, now with a \$650 million budget.

Named for the first governor of Kentucky and Revolutionary War hero Isaac Shelby, the county's original government was appointed by the General Assembly. The five-man Quarterly Court was called into session in a log cabin near Main and Winchester in the raucous river settlement of Memphis.

Through the work of that court, Shelby County Government preserved the peace, recorded deeds and decisions, helped the underprivileged, built roads and collected taxes or fees to support government functions.

The court's first action was to commission a survey of the new county. Three years later and at a cost of \$142.50, the surveyors reported the county contained 625 square miles. And while the population count was harder to pin down, it was generally accepted that the new county had between 250 and 350 people. Today Shelby County is 784 square miles with a population of more than 850,000.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This guide is developed each year by the Memphis in May International Festival to provide a comprehensive educational review of its honored location. It is provided to elementary, middle and high school educators as a teaching tool, offering activities and lesson plans to help students explore the destination's history, culture, geography, politics and lifestyle. It also addresses teaching standards as directed by the Tennessee Department of Education.

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This Memphis in May International Festival Curriculum Guide, in its entirety, paying tribute to the 2019 honored City of Memphis is available in PDF format for downloading and printing at www.memphisinmay.org.

Our Mission

The mission of Memphis in May International Festival includes a strong commitment to student education. Since its origin in 1977, the festival has developed dozens of comprehensive Curriculum Guides honoring and exploring countries around the globe, and offering practical lesson plans, activities and worksheets addressing many teaching standards. Each year, Memphis in May is proud to distribute thousands of Curriculum Guides to all Shelby County and private schools in Memphis.



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HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE - The curriculum guide is broken into four sections, grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Each section has several topics ranging from literature, social studies, science, engineering, art, and music, with suggested lesson plans for students in the appropriate grade range.

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Includes corresponding Tennessee Academic Standards. To assist teachers, activities throughout this guide are labeled with TAS numbers, as developed by the Tennessee Department of Education for each grade and subject area. Teachers are still encouraged to check guideline documents to ensure that each corresponds with the curriculum.



INTRODUCTION

In 2019, in order to celebrate the bicentennial of Memphis and Shelby County, Memphis in May salutes... Memphis!

A fascinating testimony to the wonder and excitement of Memphis is how many people come to Memphis on a visit but stay for significant portions of their lives. Musicians and artists have gravitated to our city for generations because of the great music scene, but so many others come here because Memphis is beautiful, raw, and inspirational. From W.C. Handy's "Memphis Blues" to Peter Taylor's "A Summons to Memphis" to Marc Cohn's "Walking in Memphis", our city has captured the imagination of the world in blues, fiction, poetry, and song.



"I love Memphis, I guess you could say, in the way that you love a brother even if he does sometimes puzzle and sadden and frustrate you. Say what you want about it, it's an authentic place. I was born and raised in Memphis, and no matter where I go, Memphis belongs to me, and I to it," notes Hampton Sides, a world-famous writer and native Memphian. Hampton Sides speaks for many Memphians, both here and elsewhere, in saying "Memphis belongs to me, and I to it."

Our region is rich in history and this history extends back centuries before Shelby County was chartered in 1819. Thousands of years before European or African Americans lived in this area, Native Americans inhabited the area; Chickasaw Indians eventually sold the land to the United States government and white settlers arrived by both land and the Mississippi River.

Geographically, the Mississippi River is a huge part of the character of our city. While many cities are located on the Mississippi, few have the dramatic vistas offered by our location. At downtown, on the bluff, the view across to Arkansas extends for miles and the sunsets are worthy of a painter's canvas. Other locations such as the western bend the Mississippi takes due south of downtown illustrate the river's ability to change and re-direct itself over thousands of generations.

Like much of the American south in the early and mid-nineteenth century, the Memphis economy lived and after the Civil War almost died with cotton. The slave-based economy, the cause of the Civil War, left Memphis destitute during reconstruction and the city had few resources when it was smitten twice with Yellow Fever, first in 1873, and then, more severely, in 1878. As many white residents fled to shelter beyond Memphis, African Americans in Memphis, many of them former slaves, assumed leadership roles in the stricken city.

Robert Church, Sr., was one of Memphis' leading black businessmen during Reconstruction as well as the years of the yellow fever epidemics. He understood that the city needed stability and leadership after its charter was rescinded in 1879. Church not only bought the first of many bonds needed to secure Memphis' municipal status in the aftermath of the disasters of the war, reconstruction, and the two crushing epidemics, but he also purchased large amounts of land in Memphis. Church helped secure the city fiscally and politically in those closing years of the nineteenth century. After Church would come the machine of Mayor E. H. Crump, but the lands laid aside for Church Park, and the early restructuring of Beale Street served to illustrate the powerful Church money at work.

As local historian G. Wayne Dowdy notes of Crump,

“The mayor assiduously courted every major voting bloc in the city, building a base of support that cut across ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic lines... By the time he left the mayor’s office, Crump had laid the foundation for what would become one of the most powerful political machines ever to operate in the United States.” Dowdy, 75-76

The creation of Edward Hull Crump’s political “machine” in the early 1900s was accompanied by the birth of the Memphis blues, and the two events intersected with William Christopher Handy’s composition of Crump’s campaign theme, a variation of which eventually became the “Memphis Blues.” Crump’s political reputation grew locally, and later nationally, just as W. C. Handy’s musical reputation became known throughout the world of popular tunes.

Through the twentieth century, our city became a seat of big business. Beginning in 1916, entrepreneurship took a firm hold in Memphis with the creation of the first self-service grocery store, the Piggly Wiggly. Invented by Clarence Saunders, the concept of retrieving one’s own groceries on a shopping trip was novel. Without Clarence Saunders, there would be no department stores, no malls, and none of the mega “big-box” stores at which we all shop. Clarence Saunders started a revolution in marketplace capitalism by giving shoppers a basket and telling them to pick their own fruits and beans from the ranks of the store.

Although Saunders lost his grocery store chain to financial mishaps, the spirit of entrepreneurship lived on in both Saunders and in Memphis. Clarence Saunders would endeavor to establish other enterprises. But just as entrepreneurship and the history of Memphis go hand in hand, so another businessman would assume the mantle of free enterprise in the early 1950s. That man was Kemmons Wilson.



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Kemmons Wilson was a home builder in Memphis when, as an almost legendary story goes, his family took a vacation to Washington, DC in 1951. On the way, the hotels the Wilson family found were either expensive (the Wilsons had five children and many hotels charged by the head) or just plain shabby. Wilson decided on his return to create a chain of hotels in which those who stayed would find a consistent, enjoyable experience, hotel to hotel, city to city. Wilson envisioned each hotel having hot food, a pleasant environment, and a television in every room. The first of these hotels called the Holiday Inn was built at 4925 Summer Avenue in Memphis and opened in 1952. As the Kemmons Wilson Companies' website notes, "By 1972, his vision of 400 hotels had been far exceeded and, with over 1400 hotels worldwide, Kemmons made the cover of Time Magazine."

No sooner had Holiday Inn assumed its place at the pinnacle of the lodging and hotel world, than Memphis opened its doors to an industry that would revolutionize shipping and delivery. Federal Express, now FedEx, began its run at the giants of delivery in the mid-1970s, and within a few years, was a giant of delivery and overnight commerce itself.

In the 1960s and 1970s, the city faced almost insurmountable horrors beginning with the sanitation workers strike of 1968 and the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Although it can easily be said that the world, much less Memphis, will never get over the assassination of Dr. King, Memphis rallied around a new love for the Memphis State Tigers' basketball team in the early and mid-1970s. However, in 1975, STAX Studio closed its doors, and in 1977 Elvis Presley died at his home in Whitehaven. Both of those events could have crushed the Memphis music scene forever. In 1978, Memphis policemen and firefighters went on strike and the National Guard policed the city during the ensuing troubled days. And although the strike was concluded in the late summer, the one-two punch of losing STAX and Elvis seemed to leave the city in tenuous cultural peril.

In the 1980s, 1990s, and into the new millennium, Memphis became an even greater distribution center and businesses such as International Paper, AutoZone and ServiceMaster have adopted Memphis for their international headquarters. During the past half century, the Memphis medical and bioscience infrastructure has continued to grow larger with the development of initiatives such as Memphis Bioworks. Regional One Health, known as "The Med" for many years, continues to grow and to provide Mid-Southerners with health care, and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital has been fighting the battle against childhood cancer since 1962. St. Jude is recognized as a world leader in this most important struggle.

But in Memphis, it all seems to go back to the music. Music tourism and the music industry both form a large part of the cultural backbone of our hometown. For generations, Beale Street has been the home of the blues. The tiny Sun Studio on Union Avenue opened the door to rock and roll, and names such as Elvis Presley, Johnny



Cash, Carl Perkins, and Jerry Lee Lewis are at the heart of the twentieth-century American music experience. After the golden years of Sun Studio, STAX Studio took over the airwaves and gave the world a new version of the Memphis sound, and today Ardent Studio and Royal Studios continue Memphis' musical mission.

One of the amazing features of our city is how many different ways we find to educate our young people. The Shelby County School system has over 111,000 students and almost 7,000 teachers. Our 207 schools comprise one of the top twenty-five

largest school districts in the United States and we spend more than \$11,600 on each student each year. An interesting side note to our school system is that it is a powerful force for nutrition in our region; the cafeterias in our schools will serve over 27,000,000 meals this school year!

Memphis is also served by four major colleges and universities. Lemoyne-Owen College is a historically black undergraduate college, while Christian Brothers University is a Catholic university with both undergraduate and graduate programs. Rhodes College is a four-year liberal arts college which was called Southwestern at Memphis until it was renamed after a former school president in 1984. The University of Memphis is a public university offering undergraduate and graduate degrees; it is one of the largest schools in the region and it celebrated its one-hundredth anniversary in 2012.

But colleges and universities are not the only educational institutions in our city. Museums such as the Pink Palace, the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, the STAX Museum of American Soul, and the National Civil Rights Museum provide our citizens with insights of our history, culture, and struggles. Other institutions such as the Dixon Gallery and Gardens and the Memphis Rock 'n' Soul Museum give Memphians and tourists alike rich experiences which further cultivate our sensitivities and our tastes. The Fire Museum of Memphis is a hands-on, fire safety museum where young people and adults alike learn fire prevention and fire exit strategies.

The Memphis Public Library System is another strong anchor in our city's cultural and educational foundation. There have only been seven directors of the Memphis Public Library System since its opening in April 1893, making it an institution of great stability. Reflective of the city, the library has endured the same struggles, overcoming desegregation and funding issues, and now functions as the literary soul of the city.

Among the more beloved athletic enterprises in Memphis' history are the Liberty Bowl, the FedEx St. Jude Classic, Memphis Grizzlies professional basketball, University of Memphis basketball, and, more recently, University of Memphis football. While the Memphis' athletic past includes such moments as the Clarence Saunders-sponsored professional football teams of the 1920s, and the Memphis Southmen Grizzlies of the mid-1970s, perhaps the most lasting legacy of the city sports scene is the entertaining world of professional wrestling. Names like Sputnik Monroe, Jackie Fargo, Tojo Yamamoto, Jerry Lawler, and Bill Dundee come to mind along with such ringside antics as smashing folding chairs, sand (or sawdust) to the face, and commentators Lance Russell and Dave Brown pleading with the participants to come to order.

From Riverside Drive to Shelby Farms, Memphis is filled with natural beauty. The city also contains architectural wonders like the Pyramid and tourist stops like Graceland. The Memphis Zoo is one of the finest in the country. Our city enters its third one hundred years still trying to overcome problems that have been with it since its inception, but having acquired character and much respect throughout the world. If the first two hundred years brought us the gifts of free enterprise, rock and roll, and rhythm and blues, it is exciting to anticipate the cultural innovations and progress that our next generations of Memphians—including many who are reading this right now—will bring to our great city.

WHAT THE HECK DOES THE OFFICIAL SHELBY COUNTY HISTORIAN DO?



Image credit: © Jimmy Ogle.

Many cities and counties around the United States employ historians. Shelby County's historian is Jimmy Ogle, a man with great experience in many areas of city government, tourism, and local athletics. Jimmy has given thousands of talks and tours to people interested in the history of our region. He also has had some pretty interesting jobs; he has been a Peabody Duckmaster (he actually marches the Peabody ducks up and down the carpet for their daily appearance), the director of Mud Island, the manager of the Memphis Queen Line (he has been on a riverboat or two), and a scorekeeper for the University of Memphis Tiger basketball games. If there is anyone in the city who can answer a question about Memphis and Shelby County history, it is Jimmy Ogle. Through the course of this guide, we will share some of Jimmy's knowledge in the "According to Shelby County Historian" sections. To get started, we asked him a few questions about his work and about his thoughts on Memphis history.

Q: As Shelby County Historian, what are your responsibilities?

JO: *A citizen volunteer appointed by the Shelby County Board of Commissioners, the Shelby County Historian is the "face" of the Shelby County Historical Commission, volunteers who promote and preserve the history of Shelby County. The County Historian handles daily inquiries about Shelby County history directed to the Historical Commission, coordinates monthly meetings of the Historical Commission, and handles the logistics of the Historical Marker program.*

Q: What sparked your interest in Memphis and Shelby County history?

JO: *Working in the tourism, parks and recreation sectors of Memphis for 40+ years gave me the spark. Through my experiences at the Memphis Park Commission, Mud Island River Park, Mississippi River Museum, Memphis Riverboats, Beale Street Entertainment District, Memphis Rock 'n' Soul Museum, Beale Street Landing and The Peabody Hotel, I came to know and respect the role of Memphis and Shelby County in American history, as well as its impact on the world. In 2008, I was inspired to develop a series of free, public walking tours in Downtown Memphis that has grown into an award-winning program of "Talks and Tours" about our history that is in great demand throughout the community.*

Q. Can you tell our students what events you see as the most significant in the history of our city and county?

JO:

Laying of the Cobblestone Wharf (1852-1891)

Completion of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad (1857)

Naval Battle of Memphis (June 6, 1862)

Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1878

Completion of the Frisco Bridge (1892)

20th Century Music Revolutions (Blues, Rock 'n' Roll & Soul)

20th Century Hospital Industry Development (UT, Le Bonheur, St. Jude, etc.)

World War 2 Presence in Memphis (1941-1945)

Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (April 4, 1968)

Founding of Federal Express in Memphis (1973)

Q: Could you give us a couple of names of people you view as highly influential in Memphis and Shelby County history?

JO: *Robert Church, Sr. (and family), Edward Hull Crump, Abe Plough, Elvis Presley, B.B. King, Kemmons Wilson, Danny Thomas, and Fred Smith.*

25 FAMOUS MEMPHIANS

There are countless Memphians who have made their mark on the world. This is by no means a complete list! Noticeably missing are Memphians who did not necessarily strike into the world so much as they made this city what it is today—a destination community and a fine place to live. Many city leaders such as E. H. Crump and the Ford family are not on this list because most of their contributions were local. However, in the case of Robert Church, Sr., an individual whose contributions were also almost entirely local, it might be said that the city would not be standing without him.

Robert Church, Sr., businessman, 1839-1912. Of those individuals who made a major, lasting impact on the development of Memphis in the nineteenth century, Robert Church is probably the most important. When yellow fever struck the city twice inside a few years in the 1870s, Church bought up real estate and prepared for prosperity rather than doom. Church's philanthropy built a park and a civic center for African Americans in Memphis, and six years before his death, he built the Solvent Savings Bank and Trust Company. Thought to be the first African American millionaire in the south, Church was the first of the great givers in our region. His generosity provided Memphis with an example of gift and service to others, a model which we use to this day.



Mary Church Terrell, activist, 1863-1954. The daughter of Robert Church, Sr., Mary Church Terrell was a founder of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Before her marriage to Robert Heberton Terrell, Mary Church was a teacher. She was one of the first African American females to graduate from an American university—she held bachelor's and master's degrees from Oberlin College. From the 1890s until her death, she fought lynching and segregation; she also fought for women's rights and against all forms of discrimination.

Ida B. Wells, journalist, activist, 1862-1931. Ida Wells was a fierce and eloquent fighter for the rights of African Americans and women in America. Born in Holly Springs, Mississippi only a few months before the Emancipation Proclamation ended slavery, Wells grew up in a family that valued education and activism. She moved to Memphis in 1882, eventually becoming an editor and co-owner of the newspaper the *Memphis Free Speech and Headlight*. She is best known for her impassioned editorials against the unfair treatment of African Americans, which began after the death of a black man in Memphis named Thomas Moss in 1892. Wells wrote bold articles about the unequal treatment of black people in America that were shared across the United States in over 200 newspapers and in journals overseas, making her one of the best-known female journalists of her time. Decades before the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s, Wells also organized boycotts, gave speeches to support civil rights, and helped to found the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and even ran for Illinois State Senate in the last years of her life.



W. C. Handy, musician, composer, 1873-1958. Known as the "Father of the Blues," William Christopher Handy was born and raised a Methodist minister's son in Florence, Alabama and grew up learning church music, but by the late 1800s he was traveling the country pursuing a career in popular music, gaining important knowledge of African American folk songs (later known as "blues music") along the way. By the early 1900s he moved to Memphis to play in Beale Street clubs, and in 1909 he wrote a campaign song for Memphis candidate for Mayor, E. H. "Boss" Crump (who won the election). That song, later retooled into the "Memphis Blues," was published by Handy in 1912. "Memphis Blues" is often considered to be the first blues song ever published, and its

commercial success, the results of which Handy never received, led him to create his own music publishing company and write and publish other blues hits like "St. Louis Blues" and "Yellow Dog Blues" (1914) and "Beale Street Blues" (1916). Handy

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promoted blues music for the rest of his life, publishing songs and books about blues and African American spiritual music, as well as organizing the first blues performance at Carnegie Hall in 1928. His life story was portrayed in the 1958 movie *St. Louis Blues*, in which singer Nat King Cole played the role of Handy.

Clarence Saunders, entrepreneur, 1881-1953. Clarence Saunders is famous internationally for having invented the self-service grocery store. Prior to Saunders' creation of the Piggly Wiggly stores, customers would enter a grocery and have to receive their purchases through a clerk's efforts. With the advent of the self-service grocery, customers could leisurely stroll the store's aisles and view their selections, pulling them from the shelves with no assistance. Locally, Saunders is known as the man who built the Pink Palace, the home-turned-museum which houses Memphis' largest collection of cultural and historical objects. Although the Pink Palace was intended to be Saunders' personal mansion, he lost his fortune before it was completed, and it was turned into a municipal museum in 1932.



Abe Fortas, Justice of the United States Supreme Court, 1910-1982. A brilliant lawyer and a smart political player, Fortas was a native Memphian who graduated from Southwestern College (later Rhodes College) and who worked his way up to hold the confidence of President Lyndon B. Johnson. President Johnson appreciated Fortas' talents so much that he made him an associate justice of the United States Supreme Court in 1965. Three years later, the president nominated Fortas to become the chief justice, but Fortas fell under scrutiny for his financial dealings and not only did he fail to become chief justice, but ultimately, he was forced to resign from the court in 1969. However, during his time on the court, Fortas pursued those policies of civil freedoms which were the hallmark of the Johnson era.

Kemmons Wilson, founder, Holiday Inn, 1913-2003. Kemmons Wilson was already a millionaire when he built the first Holiday Inn on Summer Avenue in Memphis. The idea was a simple one: With the rise of middle-class income, more and more families would be taking vacations and those families needed a comfortable, safe, reasonably-priced hotel for their road trip. That is how Holiday Inns came to be found on the roadside. The first Holiday Inn was built in 1952; a dozen years later, there were over 500 Holiday Inns worldwide.



Ernest Withers, photographer, 1922-2007. Ernest Withers' was one of the first eight African American officers to join the Memphis Police Department in 1947. He later became a respected photographer who captured 1.6 million images over sixty years. His photography of the Civil Rights movement is a visual record of a critical time in American history. His pictures of Martin Luther King, Jr. and other leaders of the movement are journals, but they are also portraits of the courageous leaders who fought discrimination on the streets and in the courts. Although Withers was an informant to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, his work stands as a testimony to his presence as a chronicler of those turbulent—and often violent—days.

Sam Phillips, music producer, 1923-2003. Sam Phillips was the wizard behind the early careers of such famous singers and performers as Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins, and Jerry Lee Lewis. As head of Sun Studios, Phillips' impact on American music cannot be overestimated. Before Elvis and the Million Dollar Quartet, as the group came to be known, Phillips recorded Rufus Thomas, Howlin Wolf, Ike Turner, Little Milton, and many others. Sam Phillips, like many of those who recorded in the early days of Sun Studio, is in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.



B. B. King, singer, musician, songwriter, 1925-2015. A native of Mississippi, B. B. King is considered one of the greatest guitar players in history. King cut dozens of albums and received the highest honors for his music. Among the awards he received throughout his career were fifteen Grammys, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and inductions into both the Blues and the Rock and Roll Halls of Fame. King's guitar, Lucille, was a modified Gibson ES-355, built to King's specifications; that guitar is now part of Gibson Guitar's sales line.



Benjamin L. Hooks, Jr., civil rights activist, judge, minister, attorney, 1925-2010. From 1977 to 1993, Hooks was the executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. One of the often-recorded stories about Benjamin Hooks is that of his time in the United States Army during World War II; he was guarding Italian prisoners who were allowed—even though they were prisoners of war—to eat in restaurants in which he was not allowed to eat because of the color of his skin. Committing his life to justice and the fight against discrimination, Hooks was a major figure in the Civil Rights and post-Civil Rights eras. When Hooks received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2007, President George W. Bush said of him, “He never tired or faltered in demanding that our nation live up to its founding ideals of liberty and equality.”

Elvis Presley, entertainer, 1935-1977. To many people around the world, Elvis’s name and Memphis are forever tied together. Elvis Presley began his musical career in Memphis in 1954 and as he quickly became famous for performing such songs as “Hound Dog”, “Heartbreak Hotel”, and “Love Me Tender”, his rising tide brought Memphis into the international spotlight. Even forty-one years after his death, Elvis’ home *Graceland* is Memphis’ primary tourist attraction, bringing hundreds of thousands of people to town every year.



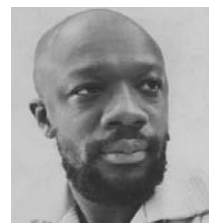
William Eggleston, photographer, born 1939. Prior to William Eggleston’s entrance to the art world, color photography was not considered a pure form of art; most photographers who were big names in the art world expressed their subjects in black and white. Eggleston changed all that. Beginning in the mid-1970s, his work began making its way into major exhibitions as well as the world’s great art collections. William Eggleston elevated commonplace objects and subjects—signs, soda bottles, cars, toys, tabletops, people lazing around, and people working—to colorful and fascinating moments. His work is in some of the great museums of the world including the Smithsonian, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, and the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles.

Tim McCarver, baseball player, born 1941. Tim McCarver, a graduate of Christian Brothers High School, has had two lengthy careers in baseball, first as a player, and second as an announcer. During his time as a player, he earned two World Series rings (1964 and 1967) playing catcher for the St. Louis Cardinals. McCarver is in the Baseball Hall of Fame not for being a player, however, but for his work as an announcer. As an analyst, he broadcast twenty-four World Series and won three Emmys. Including both careers, Tim McCarver has been making a living in baseball for parts of seven decades.



David Porter, singer, songwriter, record producer, born 1941. Porter is best known for his songwriting partnership with Isaac Hayes at STAX Records in the 1960s – the duo wrote hits like “Soul Man” and “Hold On, I’m Coming” for Sam & Dave, and he and Hayes were both inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2005. In 2017, Porter opened a new music producing venture in Memphis with a plan to rekindle the music industry in the city after the closure of STAX. Made in Memphis Entertainment is a \$5 million music studio with its own record label on Union Avenue near downtown Memphis and armed with young talented artists and a stunning musical library, including the old STAX catalog of songs, his new venture aims to put Memphis back in the driver’s seat of the music industry.

Isaac Hayes- entertainer, songwriter, 1942-2008. As half of STAX Studio’s most famous songwriting duo, with partner David Porter, Hayes was responsible for such hits as “Soul Man” and “Hold On, I’m Comin’”. In 1972, Hayes received an Academy Award for “Theme from Shaft”, only the third African American to win an Oscar (after Hattie McDaniel and Sidney Poitier). With the demise of STAX in the mid-1970s, Hayes continued to make music, but became known to a new generation as the voice of Chef, the guiding, if salacious, voice to the children of the animated show *South Park*, a role he carried from 1997 until 2006.



INTRO



J.R. "Pitt" Hyde III, founder, AutoZone, born 1942. Joseph Reeves Hyde III, better known as Pitt Hyde, started the business that became AutoZone. He joined Malone & Hyde, Inc, the wholesale food company founded by his grandfather, after he received his bachelor's degree in economics from the University of North Carolina. Hyde developed a specialty retailing division for Malone & Hyde and guided the company through a period of rapid growth that tripled sales volume. In 1972, Hyde was the youngest CEO listed on the New York Stock Exchange for a decade. On July 4, 1979, Hyde opened AutoZone as "Auto Shack" in Forrest City, Arkansas and later the store was renamed AutoZone. Because of Hyde's innovation and leadership, AutoZone is one of three Fortune 500 companies with its headquarters in Memphis. With more than \$8.1 billion in annual sales, AutoZone is known as the leading auto parts retailer in the United States. Hyde retired in 1997 but has become a leading philanthropist for the city of Memphis.

Fred Smith, founder, FedEx, born 1944. FedEx was founded by Fred W. Smith in 1971. Smith, a Yale graduate, and multi-decorated Vietnam veteran decided to take his idea for an overnight delivery service and place it in Memphis. By the mid-1970s, Smith and FedEx had overcome early struggles and Smith's leadership and risk-taking brought the corporation to the highest levels of American industry. Through multiple acquisitions of international transportation companies, Smith and FedEx have remained atop the cargo industry through the vast hub in Memphis. And FedEx is not Fred Smith's only commercial success; as a young man, he was a co-founder of Memphis' Ardent Recordings.



Al Green, singer, preacher, born 1946. Al Green became a star with such songs as "Let's Stay Together," "I'm Still in Love with You," and "Tired of Being Alone." Before he was thirty years old, he had achieved great recognition for his work and he also started a church, the Full Gospel Tabernacle, in Whitehaven. After enduring some personal tragedies, Reverend Green devoted many years to his gospel work, and in the past few years, he has taken his supreme talents in rhythm and blues and again shared his art with the world.

Kathy Bates, actress, born 1948. Kathy Bates first developed her love of acting as a student at White Station High School in the 1960s, and then followed her dreams by studying theater at Southern Methodist University and moving to New York in 1970 to act on the stage. She finally started getting attention from Hollywood and fans after her starring role in *Misery* (1990), based on the horror novel by Stephen King. Her portrayal of Annie Wilkes, a deranged fan who kidnaps and tortures her favorite author, earned her Best Actress Oscar and Golden Globe awards (a first for a horror movie) and launched her career into films like *Fried Green Tomatoes* (1991), *Dolores Claiborne* (1995), and *Primary Colors* (1998), which earned her another Supporting Actress Oscar nomination. She has also appeared in three movies nominated for Best Picture Oscars: *Titanic* (1997), *The Blind Side* (2009, set in her hometown of Memphis), and *Midnight in Paris* (2011), and she has appeared in dozens of television series, recently taking a turn as a director of some television movies.



Alan Lightman, physicist and author, born 1948. It would be difficult to argue about which Memphian has had the greatest impact on the world. After all, Fred Smith founded Federal Express and Kemmons Wilson founded Holiday Inns. However, Alan Lightman has touched the world through his intellect and his creativity. Alan Lightman is by far the most famous scientist to come from Memphis. A graduate of White Station High School, Lightman is also a world-famous writer; his books *Einstein's Dreams* and *The Diagnosis* are critical successes; *The Diagnosis* was nominated for a National Book Award. Lightman has a doctorate from the California Institute of Technology and five honorary doctorates, also.

Cybill Shepherd, actress, born 1950. Cybill Shepherd's acting career has brought her three Golden Globe awards, two for her series *Moonlighting* (in which she co-starred with Bruce Willis) and one for her series *Cybill*. She is also known for her roles in many movies including *Taxi Driver* and *The Last Picture Show*. She has been honored by the National Civil Rights Museum for her activism and strong stand against discrimination. A graduate of East High School, Shepherd was Miss Teenage Memphis in 1966.



Kallen Esperian, opera singer, born 1961. Kallen Esperian, regarded by many as one of the greatest operatic sopranos of our time, catapulted to the world stage as a winner of the Luciano Pavarotti International Voice Competition in her early twenties. Since that time, she has sung leading roles in every major opera house in the world, including the Metropolitan Opera; the Royal Opera House at Covent Garden; and La Scala in Milan. She has been paired with tenors such as Luciano Pavarotti, Plácido Domingo and Jose Carreras, both in opera and in concert. Esperian received an honorary doctorate degree from Rhodes College in Memphis. She has received numerous awards, including the Dorothy B. Chandler Award, the Mafalda Favero Award, the Arts and Humanities Award from the Germantown Arts Alliance, the Amphion Award from the Memphis Symphony, 2010 Emissary of Memphis

Music, and the Distinguished Achievement Award from the University of Memphis. In 2017, Esperian was recipient of the Tennessee Governor's Distinguished Artist Award.

Anfernee "Penny" Hardaway, basketball player, coach, born 1971. Averaging an impressive twenty points a game during his two-year college career (1991-1993), Penny Hardaway was an exciting basketball player and one of the most revered Memphis State Tigers of all time (Hardaway's last year at the university was actually the last year the school would be called *Memphis State University*; it would become the *University of Memphis* in 1994). Penny Hardaway had been on the radar of the professional scouts since he played basketball at Memphis' Treadwell High School and in 1993, he was chosen third in the National Basketball Association's draft. Although he was drafted by Golden State, he was traded immediately to the Orlando Magic where he spent his first six—and most productive—years before going to Phoenix, New York, and Miami. In a career shortened by injuries, he still managed to score over ten thousand points before retiring in 2007. In 2018, after a very successful period coaching middle school and high school basketball, Hardaway re-energized the program at the University of Memphis when he was hired to coach his alma mater's basketball team.



Justin Timberlake, singer, actor, born 1981. Justin Timberlake's pop stardom began at age 12, when he was cast in the television show *The New Mickey Mouse Club*, along with other young musical talents like Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera, later stars in their own right. He followed it up by forming the "boy band" *NSYNC in 1996 with former Mouse Club castmate JC Chasez and three other young male singers, and they became one of the most popular bands of the 1990s. *NSYNC's second album *No Strings Attached* (2000) became the best-selling album of the decade. In 2002, Timberlake began to pursue a solo career, winning two Grammy awards for his first solo album *Justified* in 2004, and the following year he started his own record label, JayZee Records. He has also proven to be an entertaining actor, winning four Emmys for his recurring appearances on *Saturday Night Live* and starring in films like *Black Snake Moan* (2006) and *The Social Network* (2010), and voiced a character in the animated *Trolls* (2016) and co-wrote its Oscar-nominated theme song, "Can't Stop the Feeling".



THE MEMPHIS QUIZ

1. What native American tribe occupied the land upon which Memphis was built?
2. What famous hotel chain was started in Memphis in the 1950s?
3. Upon what river is Memphis located?
4. Name two famous actresses from our city.
5. What chain of grocery stores was created by Clarence Saunders?
6. What are the names of two of our local museums?
7. Who ran the large “political machine” in Memphis in the first half of the 20th century?
8. What overnight delivery service has its headquarters here?
9. How many major colleges and universities are in Memphis?
10. Who is the current coach of the University of Memphis basketball team?
11. What disease struck our city twice in the 1870s?
12. Who lived at Graceland?
13. Who was the Memphian who served as director of the NAACP for more than 15 years?
14. What was the name of the Supreme Court justice from Memphis?
15. For which recording studio did Isaac Hayes and David Porter write songs?
16. Who was the Father of the Blues?
17. What crop is associated with the Memphis region?
18. What famous civil rights leader was killed in our city on April 4, 1968? Why was he in Memphis?
19. Which recording studio was owned by Sam Phillips?
20. St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital is dedicated to the fight against _____.

Answers on page 74

Standards:**Social Studies K- 2.1, 1.2, 1.5, 1.17**
Art K-2.VA.Cr1.A

K-2 SECTION 1:

Introduction to K-2 Learning Unit

Often the Memphis in May program honors a country that is very different from ours, with unfamiliar customs, languages, food, geography, and history. This year's honoree is not like that at all, because it is us! Instead of learning about a whole nation far away, we will be learning about our very own city of Memphis. How do we study our own city – the place that we live? Teachers know that one of the best ways to learn about something is to prepare to teach it to someone else. For kindergarteners through second graders, one approach might be to ask them what they know about themselves, and how they would introduce themselves to someone new. What makes you special? What is your family like? What kind of home do you have? What do you eat and do for fun? Learning about Memphis can be approached as an activity where children are going to teach someone else about their culture and the place they live.



Where can we start? First, have students answer questions about themselves that would help describe them to someone they are just meeting for the first time. How would the answers help someone else know more about you?

SAMPLE QUESTIONS:

- What is your family like? Do you have brothers and sisters? Grandparents? Aunts, uncles and cousins?
- What kind of home do you live in? A house in the country, an apartment in the city?
- What kind of landscape do you see outside your window at your house?
 - **ACTIVITY:** Use maps or a globe to show students the location of Memphis (in Tennessee, and in the United States, and in the world)
- What are your favorite foods to eat? Does your family eat special meals on holidays or other occasions?
 - **ACTIVITY:** use crayons and markers to draw pictures of your favorite foods to eat
- Do you have a pet? What kind is it?
- What clothes do you like to wear?
- What activities do you like to do – Sports? Drawing? Dancing? Music? Games?
 - **ACTIVITY:** use crayons and markers to draw a picture of yourself doing something you love – decorate the classroom with the pictures.
- How would you describe your city to someone who has never been here? (the pyramid, the river, barbeque, music?)
 - **ACTIVITY:** have students write several sentences describing what they like about their own city.

Standards:

Social Studies: K.2, K.14, 1.2.17, 1.38, 2.13
Math: K.OA.A.1 -5, K.G.A.1-3

K-2 SECTION 2: WHERE DID MEMPHIS GET ITS NAME?

The name of our city, Memphis, has an unusual sound to it, and that is because our city was named after an ancient city in a faraway country – Egypt. Just like Memphis, Tennessee, the Memphis in ancient Egypt was a big city built near the delta of the country's major river – the Nile. When our city was founded in 1819 by General Andrew Jackson (later our seventh US President), General James Winchester and Judge John Overton, they decided to name it after the ancient Egyptian city of Memphis, because it occupied an important place at the head of the delta of the Mississippi River.

MEMPHIS EGYPT

THE TALE OF TWO CITIES

Memphis, Egypt was an important city on the Nile River more than 5,000 years ago! It became known as “Men-nefer” (which meant “enduring and beautiful”) about 3,500 years ago. This name was later changed slightly in the Greek language to become “Memphis.” The ancient Memphis was close to where Cairo, the country's current capital, is now.

Here are some surprising things that our cities share:

PYRAMIDS

The ancient city of Memphis, Egypt was known for its pyramids! Pyramids in ancient Egypt were built as burial places for kings and queens, and the Egyptian royals were buried inside the pyramids with enormous treasures, like gold, jewels, and even food and furniture. The design of the pyramid was supposed to be like the rays of the sun, and it was supposed to help the king or queen join the gods in heaven.



EGYPTIAN PYRAMID OF DJOSER AT SAQQARAH
 Image credit: By Wknight94 talk [GFDL (<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html>) or CC BY-SA 3.0]

A STATUE OF PHARAOH RAMESSES II

Ramesses II was an Egyptian king (known as a Pharaoh) who ruled Egypt from 1279-1213 BCE. He was also known as Ramesses the Great; he lived to be 96 years old and was associated with a great many buildings (including pyramids) in his lifetime. There were also many statues and images created of Ramesses II, including one 60-ton, 21-foot granite statue discovered in Egypt, broken into 40 pieces, in 1961.



STATUE OF RAMESSES II IN EGYPT
 Image credit: CC BY-SA 2.5



MISSISSIPPI DELTA MAP

Image credit: <http://kingdomcolor.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/zoom-map-beale-street-memphis-tn.jpg>

A RIVER DELTA

Both the ancient Memphis in Egypt and Memphis, Tennessee are located near the delta of a major river. A delta is a place where the river empties into a larger body of water, like the ocean. The Delta gets its name because it is often an area of land near the end of the river that is shaped like a triangle (the same shape as the Greek letter delta). Memphis, Egypt was at the beginning of the Nile River Delta, and Memphis, Tennessee is near the beginning of the Mississippi River Delta.

MEMPHIS, TN

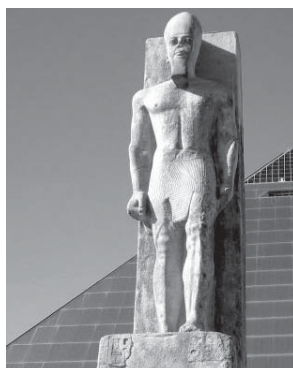
PYRAMIDS

Memphis, Tennessee also has a pyramid – the Pyramid in downtown Memphis, built right beside the Mississippi River. Our pyramid was opened in 1991, and it was originally a place for concerts and sporting events. Since it was built, many things in the city have changed, and a professional basketball team (originally the Vancouver Grizzlies) decided to move to Memphis, but they needed a larger and newer place to play. In 2004, the FedEx Forum became the place for sports and large concerts, and the Pyramid was empty for a while. In 2015, the Pyramid became the home of something new – the Bass Pro Shop, a large store that sells everything about fishing, hunting, sports, and the outdoors. They even have a large aquarium, hotel and bowling alley inside!



THE PYRAMID

Image credit: Photo by Warren Perry



STATUE OF RAMESSES II IN TENNESSEE

Image credit: By Bruce The Deus [GFDL (<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html>) or CC-BY-SA-3.0, via Wikimedia Commons]

A STATUE OF PHARAOH RAMESSES II

In 1987, Memphis, Tennessee was hosting a huge exhibition of works of art and artifacts from the time of Ramesses the Great, and the broken statue was restored and shipped here to Tennessee for the exhibition. After the exhibition was over, the country of Egypt made an exact copy of the statue and gave it to Memphis, Tennessee as a gift. The statue stood in front of the Pyramid until recently; in 2012 it was moved to the University of Memphis, and it now stands on Central Avenue.

FUN FACT: Close to the time that the city of Memphis hosted the Ramesses the Great exhibition downtown, the University of Memphis was establishing the Institute of Egyptian Art and Archaeology (the IEAA). The Institute was designated as a Center of Excellence in Tennessee in 1985, and it now offers graduate and undergraduate study in Egyptology and sponsors exhibitions and archaeological digs in Egypt.

ACTIVITIES

- What were pyramids used for in ancient Egypt? What happens in the Pyramid in our Memphis?
- Now that students have learned more about pyramids, have students complete math pyramid worksheets (example: <https://bit.ly/2xLkOCX>).
- Have students learn about three-dimensional shapes. Provide a worksheet with line drawings of shapes like pyramids, cubes, and cylinders that cover concepts like identifying shapes and counting the number of faces, edges, and vertices.
- A fun lesson from the National Endowment for the Humanities on Egyptian hieroglyphs: <https://bit.ly/2lowK1E>
- Using a globe or large map, point out the locations of Memphis, Tennessee and Memphis, Egypt and how they are positioned on the river.

A RIVER DELTA



K-2 SECTION 3: A CHICKASAW FOLKTALE – THE BIG WHITE DOG AND THE SACRED POLE

Introduction: Before the city of Memphis, Tennessee was founded by settlers of European descent, there was a long history of native people who called this land home. The people who inhabited the bluffs along the Mississippi River between about 1000 – 1500 AD were native Americans whose modern descendants are people of the Chickasaw, Choctaw, Quapaw and Cherokee tribes. In 1541, Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto was the first European to visit the area near Memphis, but the Native Americans living here had already departed. In the late 1700s, there were French and Spanish forts built on the land, and by the early 1800s a five-thousand-acre area of land along the Mississippi River had been purchased by John Overton, Andrew Jackson and James Winchester, who founded the city of Memphis in 1819.

The C.H. Nash Museum at Chucalissa allows visitors to explore the culture of the prehistoric people who built the Chucalissa earthwork complex. This village, located on the bluff overlooking the Mississippi River in downtown Memphis, was founded around 900 A.D. Discovered in 1938, the site is one of the least damaged by cultivation and looting, and has been operated by the University of Memphis since 1962. This site interprets the pre-history of the Mid-South, contemporary Southeastern Native American cultures, and serves as a gateway into understanding the science of archaeology through artifacts, displays, video and hands-on archaeology laboratory exhibits. Chucalissa is also listed as a National Historic Landmark.

THE BIG WHITE DOG AND THE SACRED POLE

Centuries ago in the West, there lived a tribe, and hostile tribes constantly warred upon them. Because of the never-ending attacks, they enjoyed little of the peace and comfort they so deeply desired.

In time, our ancestors became so weary and heavy-hearted that they appealed to our wise *hopayi'* (prophets) to find a solution to the problem.

Our *hopayi'* held a special consultation. They sat around the council fire and deliberated for many hours, and most importantly, they sought guidance from our Creator, *Aba'Binni'li'*, who created all things and sat above the clouds and directed the destiny of all.

Once they concluded their deliberations, they told our ancestors they should seek a new home where they could find peace and happiness. Their guide to the new land would be *Itti' Fabassa' Holitto'pa'*, a pole made sacred by *Aba'Binni'li'*.

At the end of each day's journey, the people should stick *Itti' Fabassa' Holitto'pa'* into the ground so that it stood perfectly straight. Each morning, the sacred pole should be carefully examined, and whatever direction it was leaning would be the way they would travel. They were to repeat that procedure until *Itti' Fabassa' Holitto'pa'* no longer leaned in any direction. When that happened, our ancestors would know it was a divine sign from *Aba'Binni'li'* that their journey was over, and they had reached their new Homeland.



Chickasaw Mississippian Period



Chickasaw Warrior

As they discussed the journey, it was decided they should split into two groups to make traveling safer and easier. The brave young *minko'* Chiksa' would lead one group, and his equally brave brother Chahta, also a *minko'*, would lead the other.

During the next few days, the families busied themselves by packing their belongings and making other necessary preparations for the trip. At last, the eve of departure arrived. That evening, the prophets stuck *Itti' Fabassa' Holitto'pa'* into the ground and retired for the night. The next morning, at the break of day, the sacred pole was carefully inspected and found to be leaning toward the east.

So, with Chiksa' at the head of one of the parties, and Chahta at the head of the other, the group set out in the direction of the rising sun.

It was a sight to behold, this great caravan of people traveling on foot, carrying all their possessions, each knowing with certainty that somewhere a new Homeland awaited them and that the sacred pole would lead them to it.

Far in front of this procession ranged a large white dog, *Ofi' Tohbi Ishto'*. He darted to the right, then to the left; he was everywhere, always on the alert. The people loved the big creature very dearly. He was their faithful guard and scout, and it was his duty to sound the alarm should enemies be encountered.

Travel was slow and laborious. Sickness was a constant companion, and the tribal doctors, *alikchi'*, kept busy with their medicine bags. But when *Sinti'*, the snake, struck any one of them, *Ofi' Tohbi Ishto'* was quickly summoned and only needed to lick the wound to make the victim well again.

Even with the extraordinary healing powers of our *alikchi'* and beloved *Ofi' Tohbi Ishto'*, the ugly hand of death reached down into the travelers and took away loved ones at will.

Then, one day, just as the sun was setting, the two parties came upon a scene beyond their imagination. It was a great river, the likes of which they had never seen before. The unexpected sight overwhelmed them.

For a long time, the astonished people stood on the riverbank and stared in awe at the mighty watercourse. They called the expansive river *Misha Sipokoni* (beyond all age); today, the great river is known far and wide as the Mississippi.

That night, the families sat around their campfires and talked joyfully to one another. Many of the people believed their promised land had been reached and felt sure the sacred pole would confirm their belief at daybreak.

But at sun up the next day, the people saw that the *Itti' Fabassa' Holitto'pa'* still leaned toward the east, and they knew that "home" was somewhere on the other side of the wide river before them.

The people hurriedly set about constructing rafts, and soon the crossing was underway. Almost immediately, a serious mishap occurred that left our ancestors grief-stricken. The raft carrying their beloved white dog broke into pieces in the middle of the river. *Ofi' Tohbi Ishto'*, who had managed to climb onto a piece of broken timber, could not be reached. The people could only helplessly watch as he was swept downstream and out of sight. That was the last they ever saw of their faithful guard and scout.

Many days were required to ferry all the people and their belongings to the opposite side, but in time, they all arrived safely.

The families rested by the river several days, then packed up and continued their eastward march. Some

THE BIG WHITE DOG AND THE SACRED POLE *continued...*

weeks later, they camped at a place that later became known as Nanih Waya, in what is now Winston County, Mississippi.

The group became somewhat excited — and uneasy, too — for they had never before seen the sacred pole behave in such a strange manner. At last, *Itti' Fabassa' Holitto'pa'* grew very still and stood perfectly straight.

At this point, the two brothers — Chiksa' and Chahta — had their first difference of opinion. *Minko'* Chahta was quite convinced that the perfectly upright pole was the divine sign from *Aba'Binni'li'* that they had reached their new Homeland. *Minko'* Chiksa', on the other hand, was not at all pleased with the way the sacred pole had wobbled around, and he felt confident their new Homeland lay farther toward the rising sun.

The two brothers and the *hopayi'* held discussions about the matter, but at the end of several hours, opinions remained unchanged. Seeing that talking was getting them no place, *Minko'* Chiksa' pulled the sacred pole from the ground and commanded all those who believed their Homeland lay farther to the east to pick up their packs and follow him.

That was the beginning of the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations. From that day on, the people that followed *Minko'* Chiksa', who were relatively few compared to the significant number who remained in camp, were referred to as Chickasaws, and those who stayed with *Minko'* Chahta were called Choctaws.

After leading the Chickasaws farther eastward to various parts of what are now the states of Alabama and Georgia, *Itti' Fabassa' Holitto'pa'* reversed its direction and guided the people westward to a place near the present-day towns of Pontotoc and Tupelo, Mississippi. There, less than a hundred miles north of where the Choctaws had settled, the sacred pole stood straight as an arrow. The Chickasaw people then knew with certainty that at last, they had found their new Homeland and that their long journey was at an end.

From *The Migration Story*: The Chickasaw Nation official website, <https://www.chickasaw.net/Our-Nation/History/Prehistoric.aspx>

READING COMPREHENSION

Read the legend of the Big White Dog and the Sacred Pole to the class, then discuss the meaning of the story with the students. Talk about how Native American stories and legends are part of an oral tradition, passed down through generations as stories told over and over. Use the following questions about the story to lead the discussion.

1. Why did the people want to find a new home?
2. How did the people know whether they had found the right place to make their new home?
3. Could this story have really happened? Does any part of it seem magical or like a fairy tale?
4. How did the White Dog help the people on their journey?
5. Of the two brothers (Chickasaw and Choctaw) who disagreed about which was the right place to make a new home, which one do you think was right? Why?

EXTRA ACTIVITY: Have students pick their favorite part of the story, then take crayons and markers and draw a picture of their favorite part. They might want to choose a favorite action (sticking the pole in the ground, crossing the river) or a portrait of their favorite character, such as Chief Chickasaw or Chief Choctaw or the Big White Dog.

IMAGES:

Chickasaw Mississippian Period. Image credit: <https://www.chickasaw.tv/events/mississippi-period>

Chickasaw Warrior. Image credit: <https://www.chickasawkids.com/Coloring/People.aspx>

Standards:

Social Studies: 2.5
Music K-2.GM.Cn2.A

K-2 SECTION 4: BLUES MUSIC

What is Blues Music? Memphis is known for this type of music, but what does it sound like? What are the songs about?

Blues music came from African American folk songs, spiritual songs, and country ballads that were sung in the southern part of the United States. W. C. Handy, an African American man who was born in Alabama but moved to Memphis around the year 1900 to play music on Beale Street, was known as “the father of the blues.” Handy was trained as a church musician (his father and grandfather were both Methodist ministers), but he went on the road as a young man, traveling around and learning and playing secular music. Along the way he heard blues music for the first time – performed by roaming solo musicians who sang and played instruments like guitars, pianos and harmonicas. The songs often described the hardships of rural life as a slave or tenant farmer, and the everyday people who listened to the songs and danced were usually laborers and farmers. He was the first man to transcribe and publish sheet music for a blues song, a song called the “Memphis Blues,” published in 1912. Blues music influenced almost everything we listen to today, including rock and roll, jazz, and hip-hop.

Here are some lyrics from the song “Memphis Blues” by W. C. Handy:

Folks I've just been down, down to Memphis town,
 That's where the people smile, smile on you all the while.
 Hospitality, they were good to me.
 I couldn't spend a dime, and had the grandest time.

I went out a dancing with a Tennessee dear,
 They had a fellow there named Handy with a band you should hear
 And while the folks gently swayed, all the band folks played Real harmony.
 I never will forget the tune that Handy called the Memphis Blues.
 Oh yes, them Blues.



The Memphis Blues



W.C. Handy Statue

K-2 SECTION 4: BLUES MUSIC *Continued...*

Activities:

1. Play some kid-friendly blues songs in the classroom (Some examples are listed below).
 - Ask them to identify what instruments they hear playing in the song (Voices? Guitars? Harmonicas?).
 - How does the singer feel? Discuss elements of the song that tell you about the singer's feelings – the tempo, the words of the song, etc.
 - Why would you sing a song about these feelings?
 - Do you ever feel that way? When do you feel like that?

Examples of songs to play in the classroom:

Lead Belly, *Lead Belly Sings for Children*, audio CD Smithsonian Folkways, 1999

Taj Mahal, *Songs for the Young at Heart*, audio CD, Music for Little People, 2006

Sandra Boynton's *One Shoe Blues* (accompanying DVD with BB King performing the song), Workman Publishing Company, 2009

Keb Mo, *Big Wide Grin*, audio CD, Sony Wonder, 2011

2. As a group, talk about how many blues songs have a pattern to them – with verses (a group of lines that go together as a unit) and the refrain, or chorus (a verse that repeats itself at regular intervals in the song).

Many blues songs follow what is called an AAB pattern:

A: The first line of the song that introduces an idea or problem

A: the second line repeats the first one, maybe with a slight variation

B: the third line answers the question or resolves the problem

A good example is the song by BB King from Sandra Boynton's *One Shoe Blues*:

"I can hear my mama calling.
She says it's time to go.
Yes I can hear my mama calling.
She says: 'REALLY now. It's time to go.'
I say: 'Mama, I can't find one of my shoes!'
And she says: 'OHHHHHH, no. Not again!'" (Boynton, 18)

EXTRA ACTIVITY: Have the class write their own blues song lyrics in the AAB pattern. Either write the lyrics on the board or have the class write their own lyrics and draw a picture to go along with their song verse.

IMAGES:

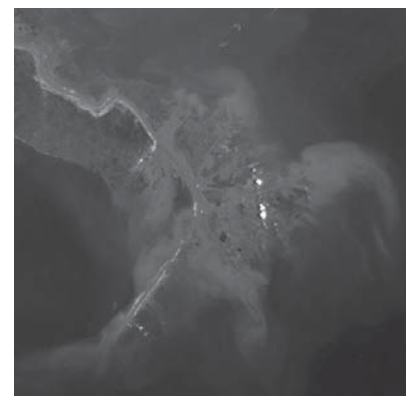
The Memphis Blues. Image credit: Library of Congress (public domain).

WC Handy Statue. Image credit: by Leo Reynolds, CC BY-NC-SA 2.0

Standards:Science 2.ESS2:2
Social Studies 2.17

K-2 SECTION 5: THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER DELTA

One of the most important features of Memphis is its position on the Mississippi River. Memphis is also in a special place at the beginning of what is called the Mississippi River Delta. A river delta is an area of low flat land often shaped like a triangle. It is formed when a river flows into a larger body of water, like the ocean. The Mississippi River drains into the Gulf of Mexico about a hundred miles downstream from New Orleans, Louisiana. A delta is formed when the river, which is carrying sediment (small particles of rock, like sand) has to slow down when it reaches a larger body of water. The sediment gets dropped off near the mouth of the river, and when there is too much sediment to be carried away, the sediment builds up in layers forming a piece of land called a *delta*. The Mississippi River Delta is the seventh largest river delta on the planet.



Mississippi River Delta NASA

Deltas have always been important to people because they are usually areas where there is fertile soil and lots of vegetation, which supports animals and plants, including trees which can supply wood for building houses.

The delta is also the fourth letter in the Greek alphabet. The capital *delta* in Greek looks like a triangle – Δ, which makes sense because the shape of the land in a river delta is often (but not always) triangular in shape.

IMAGE:

Mississippi River Delta NASA. Image Credit: October 15, 2001, NASA image created by Jesse Allen, using data provided by the University of Maryland's Global Land Cover Facility.

ACTIVITY

- Include a hands-on experiment like this one from Science Lines:

<https://bit.ly/2xUkbaD>

- Do some computer searches for the types of plants and animals that live in the Mississippi Delta. Have students draw a river scene and include cut paper collage to depict animals and plants that would live near or in the Mississippi River.

Standards:

Social Studies 1.5, 1.41, 2.4

Art: 1.VA.Cr1.A, 2.VA.Cr1.A

K-2 SECTION 6: THE GAMES WE PLAY

Memphis is also a city that loves sports! The city currently has an NBA basketball team (the Memphis Grizzlies), a minor league baseball team (the Memphis Redbirds), and a brand new United Soccer League team (the 901 FC), which begins playing in March 2019. "901" refers to the area code of telephone numbers in the Memphis area.

In addition to professional sports, Memphis roots for many college and university teams, like the University of Memphis Tigers (which has teams for NCAA basketball, football, and many other sports like soccer, volleyball, baseball, tennis, golf, softball, and track and field), the Rhodes Lynx (basketball and football), the Christian Brothers Buccaneers (basketball, baseball, soccer, and softball), and the Lemoyne-Owen Magicians (baseball, softball, cross country, track, tennis, volleyball, and golf).

ACTIVITY

Most sports teams have a mascot – a symbol for the team that is supposed to bring good luck. Lots of teams have an animal as a mascot. Discuss why sports teams would have chosen their particular mascot; the team's mascot usually represents some quality that the team wants to display, like strength, fierceness, speed, agility, and intelligence.

Share pictures of the following animals with the class. Match the animal or other mascot symbol to the proper Memphis team.

Memphis Teams:

Memphis Redbirds (Minor League Baseball, Triple-A Affiliate, St. Louis Cardinals)

Memphis Grizzlies (NBA)

University of Memphis

Rhodes College

Christian Brothers University

Lemoyne Owen College

Additional activities: Have students choose their own class mascot, or break into groups and have each group choose a mascot. Draw pictures of your mascot with crayons and markers, and write a few sentences about why this would be a good mascot for your class.

**IMAGES:**

1. **Cardinal:** Image credit: By Dominic Sherony (Northern Cardinal) CC BY-SA 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons

2. **Grizzly Bear.** Image credit: NPS Photo / Kaitlin Thoresen

3. **Tiger.** Image credit: By Derrick Brutel (An Indian tiger in the wild. Royal, Bengal tiger) [CC BY-SA 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons

4. **Lynx:** Image credit: By Mathias Appel (Lynx) [CC0], via Wikimedia Commons

5. **Buccaneer.** Image credit: By Frank E. Schoonover (1877-1972) [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons

6. **Magician.** Image credit: <https://www.publicdomainpictures.net/en/view-image.php?image=177669&picture=wizard-with-wand>

ACCORDING TO THE SHELBY COUNTY HISTORIAN, PART I

Founders & Settlers

“Memphis” received its name in 1819 from one of three original founders, James Winchester, as it was strikingly similar to a city on the Nile delta in Africa.

Prior to being named Memphis, several forts were established on the bluffs:

1739 – Ft. Assumption (French)

1795 – Ft. San Fernando (Spanish)

1797 – Ft. Adams (USA)

1798 – Ft. Pike (USA)

1799 – Ft. Pickering (USA)

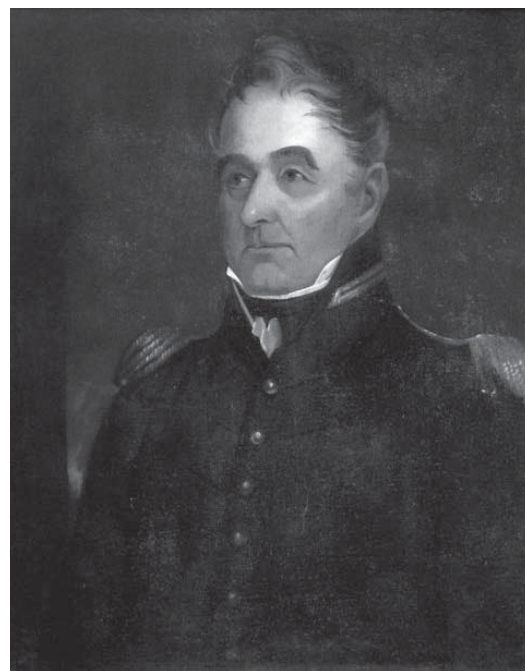
The first American flag that flew over this territory was at Ft. Adams (now Auction Park at Main Street and A. W. Willis Avenue in the north part of Downtown) was on **October 22, 1797**.

Ft. Pickering was also the name of a Union fort on the South Bluffs during the Civil War in its occupation years of 1862-1865.

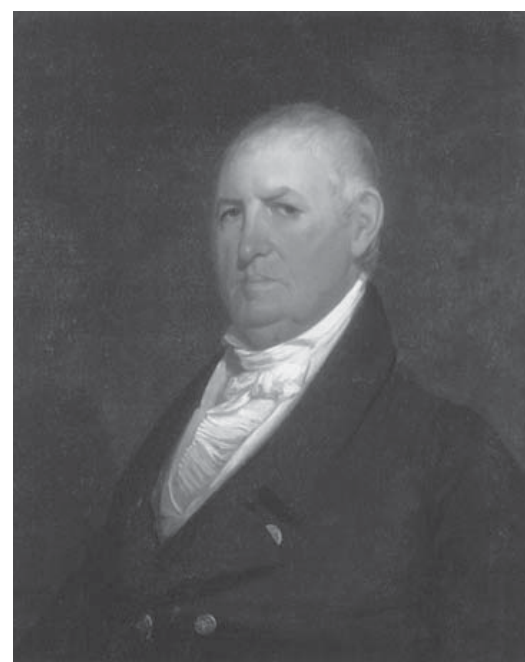
The **three founders** of Memphis never lived in Memphis, but in the Nashville area: John Overton in Franklin, Andrew Jackson in Nashville and James Winchester in Gallatin.

Tennessee was the **16th state** added to the Union in 1796, and the third after the original thirteen, because of its strategic location in the western portion of the nation at the time (prior to the Louisiana Purchase of 1803).

The western one-third portion of the State of Tennessee (between the Tennessee River, Kentucky state line, Mississippi River and the Mississippi state line) was not even owned by the State of Tennessee in its first 22 years of existence, but rather by the Chickasaw Nation until the negotiation of a treaty by Andrew Jackson and Isaac Shelby. The 6.8 million square acres were purchased for \$300,000 in 1818 or 4.5 cents per acre.



James Winchester



Isaac Shelby

ACCORDING TO THE SHELBY COUNTY HISTORIAN, PART I *Founders & Settlers Continued...*

Then immediately in 1819 – Jackson, Overton and Winchester laid out 362 lots over 1,309.5 acres on the bluff between the Mississippi River, Wolf River and Gayoso Bayou and began selling lots to form a township. Four public squares were laid for their intended purpose (Court, Market, Exchange & Market) and a 14-acre Promenade along the riverfront between Union Avenue, Auction Avenue, Front Street and the Mississippi River.

Marcus Winchester, son of James Winchester, was the first Mayor and first Postmaster of the City of Memphis.

Memphis was incorporated in 1826.

Memphis is located on the 4th Chickasaw Bluff on the east bank of the Mississippi River in West Tennessee, with Ft. Pillow (60 miles north), Randolph (40 miles north) and Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park (20 miles north) being the first three.

Memphis is located on the highest piece of ground on the Mississippi River between Cairo, Illinois and Natchez, Mississippi.

Other explorers and adventurers that made their way through Memphis in the early days were Davy Crockett, Sam Houston, Abraham Lincoln, Zebulon Pike, Henry Clay, Meriwether Lewis, and Zachary Taylor.

Shelby County is named for the Governor of Kentucky, Isaac Shelby, who, along with Andrew Jackson (eventual seventh President of the United States) negotiated the Chickasaw Cession in 1818, by which the State of Tennessee purchased the western one-third portion of Tennessee from the Chickasaw Nation.

The seven flags that have flown over the land area that is today Memphis since 1541 represent the seven jurisdictions over this territory in the past five centuries:

1541-1681	Spain
1681-1763	France
1763-1782	Great Britain
1782	United States & North Carolina
1796	United States & Tennessee
1861-1862	Confederate States of America
1862-Present	United States & Tennessee



Flag of Spain



Flag of France



Flag of Britain

IMAGES:

James Winchester. Image credit: Ralph E. W. Earl, James Winchester, 1816. Public domain.

Isaac Shelby. Image credit: Matthew H. Jouett, Isaac Shelby, c. 1820. Public domain.

Standards: English 3-8.W.RW.10, 3.8W.PDW.6

3-5 SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION TO 3-5 GRADE LEARNING UNIT

Who lives in Memphis? What is our weather like and what kinds of lands do we inhabit? What foods do we eat? What are our homes like? What kind of jobs do we have? Are we religious? Do we like sports?

There are many ways to describe people who live in Memphis, and the most common name for us is Memphians. People who live in Memphis come from all over the world. For example, in 2015, the Sheffield High School soccer team was a true international soccer team who took their skills to the highest level of state competition. Memphis Flyer reporter Aisling C. Maki wrote of these young men, "Every boy on the team is a first-generation American whose family has relocated to Memphis from thousands of miles away — from Mexico or from various African countries, including Guinea, Senegal, and Mauritania."



Businesses in our city are owned by people from North America, South America, Africa, Asia, Europe, and Australia. A Memphian does not have to be born in Memphis; he or she just has to live here. As we drive through the streets of our city, we see restaurants featuring food from China, Mexico, Venezuela, Vietnam, Ethiopia, and many other places.

If we live in Memphis, then we are also residents of Tennessee, but Memphis is different from East Tennessee where it is mountainous and different from central Tennessee where it is hilly. Our terrain in western Tennessee is much more flat than the rest of the state and we do not have to go far from downtown to reach the Mississippi Delta, the large plain created by river waters depositing sediment for thousands of years.

Our climate delivers four seasons to us, but it often seems like summer is the longest of them all. It is easy to remember days in May when the temperatures climb into the 90s and often we can be pretty warm in October as well. Our winters are mostly moderate and our springs and autumns are short, but beautiful. Most people associate our intense summers with humidity, that is, the dense, wet air that forms our environment during August and September. That humidity brings with it heat, of course, and also mosquitoes!

Although we have to fight the hot summers every year, we do so with great style. Memphians are fortunate to have inherited a great tradition of food, and summertime brings out the best in our kitchens and from the tops of our grills and smokers. We are, after all, the pork barbecue capital of the world. From ribs to shoulders, some of the best barbecue on the planet is put on plates here in Memphis, both in restaurants and in homes. Most every family has a claim to some part of our barbecue tradition.

But we do not live on pork alone! Gardens and farms in the Mid-South produce succulent vegetables of all kinds, but tomatoes and peppers are among our specialties. Our region's soil is quite fertile and we also can grow every item it takes to put into a salad or to create a plate of hot food.

Where We Live

Our homes are as diverse as we are. Some people live in apartments while others live in single-family homes. Some people live in duplexes and other people live in large homes. How we live depends on many things, but often it is money that determines our choice in real estate. Memphis is a moderately affordable place to live. A one bedroom apartment can rent for \$450 a month to \$1200 a month (or more). A home can cost from \$50,000 to a million dollars or more. Our homes are made of wood, brick, concrete, and steel, and can have foundations made of wood or concrete. Although many homes have attics, basements are a less common feature in Memphis.

3-5 SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION TO 3-5 GRADE LEARNING UNIT *Continued...***Where We Work**

We work everywhere! Memphians work for Fed Ex and Memphians work for McDonald's. We work in warehouses, hospitals, schools, factories, and on farms. Some people drive from Germantown to downtown every day to get to their jobs, while others live and work in the same neighborhood and walk to where they work or where they buy their groceries. Many people live in Memphis and work in Arkansas or Mississippi, but often it is the other way around—people from Arkansas or Mississippi come to Memphis to work.

Our minimum wage is \$7.25 an hour, but people working in warehouses can make from \$8.00 to \$15.00 an hour and doctors can make \$75.00 an hour (and much more). How much money we make depends on many things, but the most important is always education. Most college graduates in our city make more money than people who did not graduate from college or those who never attended college.

How We Get Where We Are Going

Most people in Memphis drive an automobile to work, though we have a metropolitan transit system which features multiple ways to get from one end of Shelby County to the other, no matter which direction a person is going. The webpage for the Memphis Area Transit Authority notes, "The Memphis Area Transit Authority (MATA) is the public transportation provider for the Memphis area. As one of the largest transit operators in the state of Tennessee, we proudly transport more than seven million riders a year in the City of Memphis, other parts of Shelby County, and the City of West Memphis on fixed-route bus, paratransit, and rubber-tired and vintage rail trolleys. The system is governed by a seven-member policy board appointed by the City Mayor and approved by the Memphis City Council."

More and more, Memphians love to ride bicycles. Less than twenty years ago, there were few bicycle lanes on city streets, but now there are bicycle lanes, bicycles for rent, bicycle shops, and a walking/bicycle trail from the eastern reaches of the city to midtown. Bicycles have become part of our way of life.

ACTIVITY

How often do you go to the river? Do you live in a part of the city where you see the river every day, or do you live in a part of the city where you don't see the river very often? When you do go to the river, what do you do there? Do you come to the river to see your family, or do you come to a festival? Do you know someone who lives or works on or near the river? Have you ever been on a boat on the river?

Writing exercise: Create some journal entries with several sentences or a couple of paragraphs that describe the times you have had enjoying the river.

Class activity: combine writing from the journal entries about the river into a class project that focuses on how people in Memphis relate to the Mississippi River – create a class blog or website with pictures and writing.

Standards:

Social Studies: 2.8, 3.11
Art: K-2.VA.Cr1.A

3-5 GRADE SECTION 2: THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF MEMPHIS

Our city seal is a sign that we use on our city flag and on documents which are generated by the city government. There are four symbols inside our city seal. One is a wheel, one is an oak leaf, one is a riverboat, and one is a cotton boll.

- What do these symbols represent?
- The wheel represents progress and moving forward.
- The oak leaf represents the large amount of timber that is grown in our area.
- The riverboat represents trade, distribution, and the Mississippi River.
- The cotton boll represents our history of growing and selling cotton.



ACTIVITY

Have students create their own class seal. Discuss what images would be important symbols for your class or your school. Students can then either create their own individual seals or come up with a group design.

3-5 GRADE SECTION 3: A HIGHWAY FOR BIRDS?

There are two large interstate highways coming through Memphis. One highway, Interstate 40, goes east and west, and cars and trucks from all over the United States travel this interstate carrying people, food, wood, metal, finished goods, and even other cars. Another highway, Interstate 55, serves the same purpose, but it goes north and south.

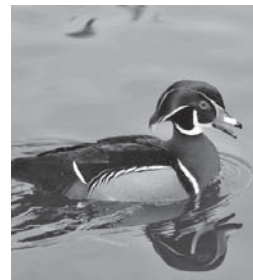
Interestingly, there is another highway, but it is not for people. It is not actually a road, but rather a path—a path in the sky. That path is called the *Mississippi Flyway* and it is the path that millions and millions of birds take each year as they migrate seasonally from as far north as Canada to as far south as the Gulf of Mexico. Over three hundred different species of birds in vast flocks fly over our heads during their travels seeking food and comfortable climate.

Memphis, because of its location on the Mississippi River, is right on the path of all those traveling birds. Some birds, like people traveling on the interstates, stop and feed and stay a while. Others fly through on the way to their destinations.

One organization located here in Memphis, Ducks Unlimited, has a large role in keeping the Mississippi Flyway safe for birds. Though their mission (their purpose, or why they are in business) states specifically that they seek to protect waterfowl and the places where waterfowl live, they also acknowledge that by doing so, they are also protecting other wildlife and human interests. Ducks Unlimited has been doing this work for more than eighty years.



Canada Goose



Wood Duck

ACTIVITY

Have a classroom discussion to see what the students know about migration. Show maps of routes and amazing distances traveled by birds. Some travel at night; others by day. Some travel 30,000 miles; others a few hundred miles or not at all. Discuss why some birds migrate and how some overwinter in Memphis (because they are able to find enough food here).

Activity: Have students select a bird species to study. Have them complete a worksheet on their bird, answering the following questions: 1. Name of Bird; 2. Habitat; 3. What kind of nest it builds; 4. Where does it spend the winter? 5. Food this bird eats; 6. Conservation status of this bird in Tennessee. Have students draw a picture of their bird. Allow students to present their research to the class.

Additional activity: have the class set up a bird feeder outside the classroom, and observe and record what types of birds they can see over several weeks. Record on a worksheet: date, time of day, weather, bird seen at feeder, and notes on the observation.

Additional resources:

https://www.massaudubon.org/content/download/7014/129334/file/Birds_3-5.pdf;

https://www.birdday.org/component/resources/?c=search&type_id=4;

IMAGES:

Canada Goose. Image credit: CC BY-SA 2.0

Wood Duck. Image credit: Olaf Oliviero Riemer CC BY-SA 3.0, from Wikimedia Commons

Standards: Social Studies 3.14**3-5 GRADE SECTION 4: WHAT WE EAT**

As we mentioned previously, food in Memphis comes from all over the earth, but we do have our own specialties. Among the foods we make best, barbecue pork is at the top of our menu. It is difficult to drive down a major street in Memphis or anywhere in Shelby County without finding a barbecue joint or a restaurant that has barbecue on its menu. Barbecue is our food, specifically, pork barbecue. And with pork barbecue come the sides—coleslaw and baked beans. Some barbecue experts will say that barbecue should be served with white bread, others say dinner rolls. Some Memphians like their coleslaw with a mayonnaise base, others with a mustard and vinegar base. Baked beans also come in recipes as different as the plates on which they are served. But almost every Memphian will agree on this one point: *If you want pork barbecue, come to Memphis; if you want beef barbecue, go to Texas, or Kansas City, or somewhere else.*

ACTIVITY**How Many of the Following Barbecue Restaurants Have You Visited?**

The Rendezvous
Corky's
Neely's
Interstate
Payne's
The Germantown Commissary
Leonard's
Cozy Corner
Tops
Three Little Pigs
Central BBQ
The One and Only
A & R
Marlowe's
The Bar-B-Q Shop
Tom's BBQ
King Jerry Lawler's Memphis BBQ
Brad's
Memphis Barbecue Company
Coleman's
Gridley's

Another, or maybe someone in your family has the barbecue touch?

Celebrating Barbecue!

Every year, the Memphis in May International Festival hosts the World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest (WCBCC). Certified by Guinness Book of World Records as the World's Largest Pork Barbecue Cooking Contest, WCBCC is the most prestigious barbecue cooking contest on the planet and has been featured on every major television network and numerous cable networks such as CNN, BBC, A&E, Travel Channel, Discovery, and the Food Network, among other international network programs.

The World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest started in 1977 in a parking lot with a few dozen teams and their grills. The contest quickly grew and is now located on the beautiful banks of the mighty Mississippi River in the 25-acre Tom Lee Park which is filled to capacity each year. More than 40 tons of meat is consumed over the four-day competition and approximately 230 teams come from over 25 states and several foreign countries to participate in America's most prestigious barbecue competition. With over \$117,000 in prize money at stake, teams compete in three different championship categories: rib, shoulder and whole hog.

In addition to the barbecue competitions, the World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest features eight additional food and sauce contests: Beef, Poultry, Seafood, Exotic and Hot Wings. Exotic often features unusual entries each year – such as alligator, deer, snake, and reindeer one year (the Norwegians). There are three sauce categories: Tomato Sauce, Mustard Sauce, Vinegar. We also have three non-food contests such as Best Booth, T-Shirt Design and the Ms. Piggie Idol, which allows teams to strut their stuff on stage and demonstrate their vocal and dance talents!



3-5 GRADE SECTION 5: COMMUNITIES WITHIN MEMPHIS

Each city is composed of different sections or communities, and often we identify ourselves by the community in which we live. Memphis is no different. There are many communities within our city and some people spend their entire lives inside a particular community. Whitehaven, Frayser, Raleigh, Orange Mound, Midtown, Oakhaven, Hickory Hill, and Cooper-Young are all communities within the larger portion of our city.

When we meet a person and ask where he or she lives, we are not necessarily asking for a street address like *3734 Highway, 51 South* or *6750 Poplar*. No, we are usually asking from what part of town or from what community the other person comes. For example, one person might ask, *"Where do you live?"* and the other person might answer, *"Oh, I live down by the airport in Oakhaven."*

Each community is different. Orange Mound is a historically African-American neighborhood, the first to be built by and for African-Americans, while Midtown is more diverse. Though there are no rules about where people can or should live, people often live in neighborhoods to which their families have been attached for generations. Sometimes, especially in cities larger than Memphis with large populations of a certain group, whole communities are defined by the ancestral nation of the inhabitants. For example, both New York and San Francisco have large communities within their respective cities called *Chinatown*.

Some communities, like Frayser, grew up around industries. Many people from Frayser still speak of the glory days of International Harvester and Firestone, when both companies together employed upwards of five thousand people. In the 1960s and the 1970s, there were few places more stable than such heavy industrial centers and when both plants closed within weeks of each other in 1983, Frayser—and Memphis by extension—suffered greatly. Those plants have remained closed for thirty-five years.

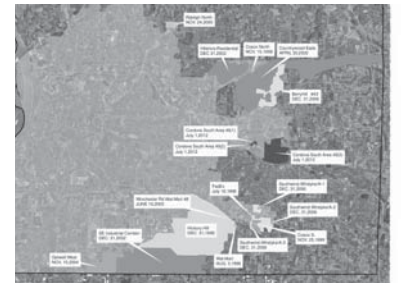
Other communities, like Midtown, have no center of industry or warehousing, but they are communities which have long histories of institutions within them. For example, Midtown is home to Central High School which was opened in 1909, *three years before the University of Memphis* (which was then called the West Tennessee State Normal School). Christian Brothers University, at the corner of East Parkway and Central, was first opened on Adams Avenue in 1871, and then moved to its current location in the early 1940s.

Whitehaven was not part of Memphis until it was annexed in 1970. To annex a community means to take an independent community and make it part of a larger city. Prior to 1970, Whitehaven was an independent community south of Memphis, though it was part of the greater Memphis/Shelby County metropolitan area. Communities which are annexed come to be part of a city when the city wants to increase its size and revenues. Sometimes, communities do not want to be annexed and leaders of those communities fight annexation in court; at other times, it is to their benefit to be annexed.

Interestingly, sometimes cities de-annex communities, that is, they free them from the city's control and the communities become independent again.



Memphis Overview Map



City of Memphis Annexations since 1998

IMAGES:

Memphis Overview Map. Image credit: By Peter Fitzgerald, OpenStreetMap [CC BY-SA 2.0 or OdbL, via Wikimedia Commons]
City of Memphis Annexations since 1998. Image credit: <https://shelbycountyn.gov/2954/Annexations>

Activity on page 80

Standards: Science 3.ESS3, 4.ESS2

3-5 GRADE SECTION 6: A WHOLE LOT OF SHAKING GOING ON

Few things are as surprising or as frightening as an earthquake. Earthquakes can be small and can feel like a large truck is driving nearby, or they can be large enough to shake pictures on walls and knock objects off of shelves. The largest earthquakes can topple buildings and change the land.

Earthquakes are measured on a scale called the Richter scale which measures their magnitude, or power. Earthquakes occur all over the planet every day, but most are so slight that they are never felt. Others, however, can do some pretty serious damage. Such was the case with a series of earthquakes in the Mid South a few years before Shelby County was chartered.

In late 1811 and early 1812, several earthquakes severely shook this region. They were very powerful earthquakes, and though there was no device like a seismograph (a machine used to measure the strength and length of an earthquake) to record them, it is generally thought that these earthquakes were massive. Reelfoot Lake in northwestern Tennessee was formed because of them.

The United States Geological Survey website says of these earthquakes, "On the basis of the large area of damage (600,000 square kilometers), the widespread area of perceptibility (5,000,000 square kilometers), and the complex physiographic changes that occurred, the New Madrid earthquakes of 1811-1812 rank as some of the largest in the United States since its settlement by Europeans. They were by far the largest east of the Rocky Mountains in the U.S. and Canada."

Scientists believe our region has a history of strong seismic (earthquake) activity. One of the greatest assets in the study of this history is the Center for Earthquake Research and Information at the University of Memphis. The center operates out of several buildings on Central Avenue in which scientists study seismic activity not just here in Memphis, but around the world. They assemble data in order to be better informed about what makes the earth move and how to prevent loss of lives and structures during such catastrophic events.

Scientists who study earthquakes are called seismologists. Seismologists consider how our planet's various layers shift and cause change and movement. They also look for patterns in seismic activity to determine if there can ever be any predictability about earthquakes or earthquake effects. Such research helps engineers make plans for stronger buildings and allows emergency personnel such as fire, police, and medical workers to take precautions against these disasters.

More resources on plate tectonics and the New Madrid seismic zone:

- <https://geology.com/usgs/new-madrid-seismic-zone/>
- https://geology.com/nsta/pt_drawings.pdf
- <https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/articles/teaching-content/earthquakes/>



New Madrid Seismic Activity 1974-2011

ACTIVITY

Students can learn about how earthquakes occur through an exploration of plate tectonics. Discuss the different types of faults (normal, reverse, strike-slip) in class, and then create a model to show how the faults work using either foam blocks or foldable patterns that the students can decorate to show sedimentary layers. Examples of several block model fault activities can be found here:

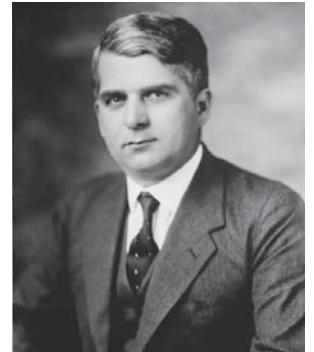
- <https://igws.indiana.edu/LessonPlans/FaultBlock.pdf>
- https://www.iris.edu/hq/files/programs/education_and_outreach/aotm/2/FoamFaultModel_Activity.pdf
- https://nhm.org/site/sites/default/files/for_teachers/pdf/Fault%20Block%20Visual%20Aid.pdf

3-5 GRADE SECTION 7: LET'S GO SHOPPING

Clarence Saunders, Piggly Wiggly, and Self-Service Grocery

The American grocery store is a community locus and a national institution. In less than one hundred years, the self-service grocery store has not only become the American way of buying food, but also the method of shopping preferred in many nations all over the world.

The United States is a do-it-yourself nation, and when it comes to shopping, Americans like to squeeze their own Charmin and thump their own cantaloupes. We buy everything from avocados to zucchini, and we like putting our groceries in our own baskets, bags, and carts. However, it was not always as simple as it is today; in the early twentieth century, customers would have to wait in line while clerks brought a customer's selections to a counter where the items would be registered and bought.



Clarence Saunders

When Clarence Saunders of Memphis, Tennessee had an idea to improve the grocery buying experience, it became an instant American hit. Saunders' self-service grocery store, Piggly Wiggly, which opened in 1916, modernized the entire shopping adventure by standardizing the look of the stores and employees, by offering a uniform selection of products throughout the store franchises, and by allowing customers to walk down aisles full of goods to select their products. By 1923, there were almost 1300 Piggly Wiggly stores.



Piggly Wiggly 1918

Each year, from Gristedes in Manhattan to Vallarta in the San Fernando Valley, Americans spend over \$500 billion at the grocery store. According to a 2014 *Business Insider* survey, the average shopper shells out around \$6000 each year for groceries, with Wegman's, Trader Joe's, and Publix being the favorite chains out of the major grocery retailers. That \$500 billion dollar grocery store experience began right here in Memphis with Piggly Wiggly.

Clarence Saunders is also, to some degree, responsible for our largest museum known as the Pink Palace. After he lost his fortune in 1923, Saunders relinquished ownership of the large Georgian pink marble

mansion he was building for a home. That building at 3050 Central Avenue in the middle of Memphis is now our municipal museum. It houses a large collection relating to local history, but it also has a fascinating lot of objects like fossilized dinosaur remains and geological specimens.

ACTIVITY

Ask students about where they or their families shop for groceries. Discuss the availability of stores in different communities, as well as how the availability of stores and products in the stores affects the consumers (how much they pay, how their overall nutrition is affected, etc.). Have students create written assignments or journal entries about how and where they shop. Have students complete a meal planning and consumer math project where they must develop a meal plan, virtually "shop" for items at local stores, look for coupons and other savings, and create a well-balanced meal on a limited budget. A detailed lesson plan can be found here: <https://www.teachersfirst.com/winners/shopdrop.cfm>

IMAGES:

Clarence Saunders. Image credit: George Grantham Bain Collection, Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C.

Piggly Wiggly 1918. Image credit: Public Domain

ACCORDING TO THE SHELBY COUNTY HISTORIAN, PART II

The Mississippi River

The Mississippi River in the Memphis area is known as the Lower Mississippi and it drains over 41% of continental North America, including 31 states and two provinces of Canada (Alberta & Saskatchewan). Its major tributaries are the Missouri River, Upper Mississippi River, Ohio River (from which 2/3 of its water source originates), the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers.



An average of 6,000 gallons of water per second flows past Memphis daily and in every gallon of water, there is a teaspoon of mud. “Too Thick to Drink, and Too Thin to Plow” is a fond saying about the Muddy Mississippi River.

The Port of Memphis is the second largest inland port on the Lower Mississippi River.

The **Frisco Bridge** opened in 1892 and was the first steel span across the Lower Mississippi River, the longest span in America at that time and carried a single line of railroad traffic which opened Memphis up to the west coast and Asian markets. The **Harahan Bridge** opened in 1916 as a double-line railroad bridge, but also



with two overhanging eaves dedicated for automobile traffic. The **Memphis & Arkansas Bridge** opened in 1949 for Highway 70 (coast-to-coast from San Diego to New York) and converted for I-55 use in the 1970s. The Hernando De Soto Bridge opened in 1973 for I-40. Almost 50,000 vehicles cross over each of these two bridges – Memphis & Arkansas and Hernando De Soto daily!



The **Hernando De Soto Bridge** is also known as the “**Big M**” Bridge and according to the Guinness Book of World Records, the “M” of the bridge is the **longest** free-standing letter of the alphabet in the world at 1,760 feet long!

A **river barge** is pushed by a towboat (the most famous from Memphis being the *Proud Mary*). One barge is 35' X 195' and has the same **capacity** as 15 train cars and 50 semi-truck loads of cargo.

The Mississippi River **river gauge** is set at 184 feet sea level, as established in 1872 by the U.S. Department of the Navy. The river level fluctuates in Memphis by over forty feet during the course of its annual rise and fall. The all-time high was in 1937 at 48.7 feet and the all-time low was in 1988 at -10.7 feet.

The **Cobblestone Wharf** at the Foot of Monroe Avenue was begun in 1852 and over one million cobbles were laid in nineteen different work sessions until 1891. There are over 160 different cobblestone patterns in the wharf. It is the largest original cobblestone wharf left in America and is on the National Register of Historic Places.



The levee system of the Lower Mississippi River, constructed from 1928-1937, was the largest project in the history of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The 900 miles of levees (300 feet wide & 40 feet high) between Cairo, Illinois and New Orleans, Louisiana are said to be the **second most visible and largest “manmade” structure on Earth** for astronauts to view when approaching the globe upon re-entry (the first being the Great Wall of China).

TWO-PART WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

1. What is the abbreviation for the public transportation provider for the Memphis area? **(4)**
2. What does the cotton boll represent in our history of growing and selling? **(6)**
3. What is the name of the first self-service grocery store? **(12-2 words)**
4. Whose idea was it to improve the grocery store experience? **(17-2 words)**
5. What was the first steel span across the lower Mississippi? **(12-2 words)**
6. What is the name of the most famous river barge in Memphis? **(9-2 words)**
7. The Hernando De Soto Bridge is also known as? **(4-2 words)**
8. Which museum has a miniature circus, a model of the first Piggly Wiggly store, and exhibitions on the Civil War and the Civil Rights Movement? **(10-2 words)**
9. Scientists who study earthquakes are called what? **(13)**
10. On the City Seal, the oak leaf represents the large amount of _____ that is grown in our area. **(6)**
11. During migration over _____ hundred different species of birds in vast flocks fly over our heads. **(5)**
12. Which community grew up around industries? **(7)**
13. Which neighborhood was not part of Memphis until it was annexed in 1970? **(10)**
14. Most every family has claim to what food tradition? **(8)**
15. What organization has a large role in keeping the Mississippi Flyway safe for birds? **(14-2 words)**

Answers on page 74

TWO-PART WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

Name: _____

After answering the questions on the previous page, locate those words in the word search below. Circle each answer as it runs forward or backward, either across, up and down, or diagonal.

E	J	O	P	W	Q	M	P	Y	V	D	E	B	D	C	Z	Z	B	S	F
G	I	O	Q	F	J	Z	U	Q	L	C	V	U	U	H	Q	O	U	R	Y
D	Z	Y	L	U	N	K	C	X	A	G	C	D	B	Y	E	C	A	W	T
I	P	S	S	E	L	C	F	L	F	K	G	B	E	E	W	Y	U	F	U
R	N	O	T	T	O	C	A	D	S	X	C	I	F	W	S	E	I	T	H
B	P	B	I	G	M	P	U	U	B	W	L	F	W	E	X	D	L	Y	L
O	P	R	C	Y	K	T	N	D	A	K	A	P	R	Y	K	P	B	V	K
C	N	U	O	N	M	L	G	Z	R	O	R	R	D	Y	L	Y	Y	O	P
S	R	Z	I	U	I	Y	B	Q	B	H	E	U	K	Y	M	G	Y	V	J
I	J	P	Z	M	D	B	A	U	E	E	N	B	D	C	B	Z	G	H	D
R	Q	J	I	F	L	M	S	F	C	E	C	L	P	P	Q	F	M	I	U
F	Y	T	D	I	P	V	A	S	U	R	E	C	C	Z	N	G	D	R	P
D	E	M	Q	A	X	Y	D	R	E	H	S	B	H	P	U	H	G	Z	G
D	O	Y	A	W	B	X	R	P	Y	T	A	I	Z	D	K	L	L	X	B
C	U	T	Y	T	V	K	U	F	L	T	U	R	R	F	U	W	X	A	B
F	A	R	M	W	S	X	Z	Y	V	O	N	A	E	A	J	B	R	U	X
M	Y	R	I	E	V	H	Q	Y	S	B	D	J	X	B	I	B	E	E	U
S	T	S	I	G	O	L	O	M	S	I	E	S	D	T	M	K	S	U	N
W	H	I	T	E	H	A	V	E	N	A	R	J	T	N	U	I	Y	L	K
P	N	A	U	H	Y	L	W	F	W	W	S	F	N	K	J	U	T	Y	S

Answers on page 74

6-8 GRADE SECTION 1: MEMPHIS AND FEDEX – CHANGING THE WAY THE WORLD USES OUR FOUR R’S: RIVERS, ROADS, RAILS, AND RUNWAYS

Memphis is the world’s distribution center. This is, in large part, thanks to FedEx and their global dominance in the field. The concept for FedEx was formed via a 1965 Yale University student’s term paper. That student was Fred Smith, now CEO of FedEx, and his big idea was to use new means of transportation, new routes and new shipping methods to move items faster. His idea was revolutionary. And, today, FedEx remains an international symbol of innovation and great customer service.

Although originally intended to move time-sensitive materials, such as medicine and computer parts, today FedEx ships everything. From letters and documents to car parts to valuable art, racecars, and beyond, the shipping giant takes on all challenges. FedEx uses trucks, cargo vans, planes, and jet aircraft. They also employ logistics personnel—people trained in the science of delivering goods—worldwide.

Memphis serves as FedEx’s primary sorting station and that single fact makes Memphis one of the most powerful business hubs on earth! But FedEx is only one factor making Memphis the world’s distribution capital. Memphis’ access to the Four R’s (Rivers, Roads, Rails, Runways) is also key. Our geography, access to the Mississippi River, five Class I railroads, an international airport, and two national interstate highways make our city uniquely qualified to serve FedEx and the rest of the world’s distribution needs. Simply put, Memphis has the means to distribute.

Additionally, the agencies, companies, and individuals who participate in the shipping and storage processes centralized in our region make Memphis an integral part of the planet’s distribution network. Feeding into Memphis’ massive distribution network are many other hubs (or centers) of intermodal networks.

What does *intermodal* mean?

Intermodal conveyance is a system that uses more than one type of shipping method. For example, we often see automobiles on trailers being pulled down the interstate. However, those automobiles did not necessarily begin their voyage to the new car dealership on the backs of those large trucks. Those cars could have been brought from a factory by a train and then moved to the trucks which would take them to markets possibly not served by railroad.

To see how such a system works in Memphis, we can consider the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) yard on Lamar Avenue, just north and west of Shelby Drive. The BNSF system nationwide contains twenty-two intermodal facilities from Seattle to Atlanta, from St. Paul to New Orleans. Per the BNSF website, (www.bnsf.com):

BNSF helps connect freight shippers and consumers in the global marketplace. For more than 160 years, BNSF has played a vital role in building and serving the nation's economy by delivering many of the products we use every day:

- *grain and other ingredients to produce the foods we eat,*
- *raw materials to build our homes and operate our businesses,*
- *finished electronics, clothing and consumer goods we use every day,*
- *low-sulfur coal used to generate more than 10 percent of the nation's electricity.*

Operating one of America's largest railroad networks, BNSF connects the communities we serve to the rest of the country and the world.

The BNSF facility at Memphis is a vast one where many tracks converge into a single train yard and large rail containers are sorted and separated by crane spreaders—very large lifts which pluck cargo containers off one

vehicle and onto another—and then go their way to their respective destinations. Because a facility like this engages trains and trucks, but works within a system that has several seaports available to it, BNSF can move goods all over the globe by boat or barge as well truck and train.

To illustrate how important Memphis is in the role of distribution, we must understand that the huge operation at BNSF is one of four large intermodal facilities within our city, the others being Norfolk Southern, Chessie Seaboard (CSX), and Canadian National.

Of course, the oldest pathway through our region is also the most geographically distinct one. The Mississippi River is a beautiful, natural feature of our land, but it is also a highway for our national commerce. Crops, fuels, finished goods, and people all move up and down the river; it was a transportation route for centuries before the first Europeans and European Americans ever saw it.

Today, it is easy to see how the river serves as a conduit for American shipping. Over the course of a few days, a person can stand on the banks of the Mississippi and count the barges passing Memphis. So where do those boats and barges dock in Memphis?

Worldportsource.com notes the following:

The International Port of Memphis is the United States' fourth largest inland port, and it is the second largest on the Mississippi River's shallow-draft portion. Covering both the Tennessee and Arkansas banks of the Mississippi, there are 68 waterfront facilities on the 15-mile stretch of the International Port of Memphis. Of those, 37 are terminal facilities handling cargoes like tar, petroleum, cement, asphalt, coal, steel, fertilizers, salt, rock and gravel, and grains. Almost all of the industries included in the International Port of Memphis are based on Presidents Island.

The impact of such activity is critical to the region's economy. Goods trafficked through Memphis and our port provide jobs and commercial stability. Again, Worldportsource.com tells us:

The Port of Memphis generates \$7.1 billion and 5162 jobs to the regional economy each year. The combined annual revenue of the 122 port tenants is \$3.3 billion per year. The Port of Memphis' secondary economic contributions include almost \$786 million in wages from direct and indirect jobs and payment of \$33.8 million in combined taxes each year.

Perhaps the most fascinating part of all these processes is the fact that most of it goes on beneath the radar of our awareness. How many of us think about the large number of goods and materials being transported all around us? While we see the FedEx fleet operating on our streets every day, and we occasionally look up and notice the jets landing or taking off, rarely do we consider how important such industry is to our city. Every time a large tractor trailer passes us on a local highway or interstate, that truck signifies the flow of products in and out of Memphis. Each FedEx jet signifies jobs and money pulsing into our economy. Those barges slowly churning up and down the river are majestic, certainly, but they are also indicators of our dynamic place in the world market.

ACTIVITY

Imagine you manufacture mobile homes, which are made of wood, aluminum, plastic, and steel. You manufacture those homes for people living all over the United States, as well as such distant countries as Australia, South Africa, and Iceland. You fabricate all the materials in your plant in Oklahoma City, which has an access to I-40. You do not assemble the mobile homes, but you must ship the mobile homes to those locations around the world and all over the United States. Knowing what you know about Memphis as a distribution center, create a model to get your pre-fabricated homes to the following cities: Melbourne, Australia; Johannesburg, South Africa; Reykjavik, Iceland; Macon, Georgia; and Bakersfield, California. Use maps and logistical enterprises centered in Memphis, Tennessee when you devise your plan.

6-8 GRADE SECTION 2: MEMPHIS: AMAZING CITY, AMAZING CULTURE

Our city has many museums and historical properties. We have outlined some below. Each has a specific mission, that is, each has its special purpose inside the broader cultural spectrum. Some of these institutions have large collections while others are relatively small, but each has a special place in our community. Like most cities our size, our city is filled with museums which reflect the community's history and passions.

Pink Palace Museum

The Pink Palace is our large municipal museum. It has rich collections which represent the different experiences of our lives and our history in Memphis. As mentioned previously in this text, the main part of the museum from which the rest of the museum springs was intended to be a mansion for the wealthy entrepreneur, Clarence Saunders. The Pink Palace contains natural history collections as well as historical collections. It is just one in their "family of museums" which also includes Lichterman Nature Center and historic homes.



Memphis Brooks Museum of Art

The Brooks is an encyclopedic museum of art. By *encyclopedic*, we mean that the collection attempts to have an object of art from almost every period of human history and pre-history. The strengths of the Brooks collection are to be found in modern Southern art, late medieval and early Renaissance art, and modern American art. The Brooks is located in Overton Park. It was opened in 1916, but has been expanded several times over the years, and is now destined for relocation to downtown Memphis sometime in the next few years.



Dixon Gallery and Gardens

Bequeathed to a foundation from the late Hugo and Margaret Dixon, the Dixon Gallery and Gardens opened its doors in 1976. Over the past forty years, the Dixon, whose mission is to collect and to exhibit French and American Impressionism (art of the Impressionist period, but the Dixon stretches its mission from time to time to accommodate exhibitions which are close to its purpose) has become a major force in collecting and exhibiting. From Degas to Renoir, the core collection of the Dixon is a carefully chosen lot of important works which hold their walls well.



Institute of Egyptian Art and Archaeology (IEAA), University of Memphis

The IEAA, per its website, "is dedicated to the study of the art and culture of ancient Egypt through teaching, research, exhibition, and community education." Through teaching, fieldwork, collections, and interpretation, the IEAA serves the community, the University of Memphis, and the discipline of Egyptology with its scholarship. Most artifacts in the collection are thousands of years old and bridge the span between the once mysterious and unknown civilization of ancient Egypt and our modern quest to understand the past.



National Ornamental Metal Museum

Located south of downtown, the National Ornamental Metal Museum sits high on the bluff of the Mississippi overlooking a turn in the river which flows due west. While the location of this unique Memphis museum is quite dramatic, the mission is one of hard work in pursuit of excellence. Per NOMM's website, "The Metal Museum is the only institution in the United States devoted exclusively to the advancement of the art and craft of fine metalwork."



Belz Museum of Asian and Judaic Art

The Belz Museum is tripartite. They have a strong collection of works from Asia, specifically works from the Qing dynasty which stretched from 1644 to 1911. These beautiful works illustrate the depth of talent and the beauty of materials appreciated by the elite in the Qing period. The second collection of the Belz Museum is a series of objects representing modern Judaica, while the third collection is, per the Belz website, "a repository for items, stories and contemporary art that will honor survivors and their families and preserve their history."



STAX Museum of American Soul

The STAX Museum of American Soul Music is a program of the Soulsville Foundation, which also operates the STAX Music Academy and The Soulsville Charter School. Located on the original site of STAX Records, the 17,000 square foot museum offers a tremendous experience that includes state-of-the-art interactive exhibits, music videos, instruments, items of stage clothing, records, filmed interviews, vintage recording equipment, and other items of memorabilia that tell the story, from beginning to present, of American soul music, with particular focus on STAX Records.



National Civil Rights Museum

More than a narrative museum, the NCRM is part of the American civil rights movement, as it is located on the grounds of the Lorraine Motel where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated on April 4, 1968. This museum commemorates activism, the fight, the horrors, and the victories in the struggle against discrimination. The National Civil Rights Museum is regularly the stopping point for a large percentage of Memphis tourists.



Mallory-Neely Home, Magevney House, and Davies Manor Plantation

Historic homes in Memphis, including the Mallory-Neely Home (an example of a Victorian home built in 1852 with original architecture, furnishings, and artifacts), and the Magevney House (one of the city's oldest remaining residences – a modest white clapboard house built for Irish immigrant Eugene Magevney), both on Adams Avenue near downtown, are windows into life in Memphis more than a century and a half ago. Davies Manor Plantation, located in what is now Bartlett, includes several historic buildings, including the oldest log home in Shelby County that is open to the public.



Slavehaven Underground Railroad Museum

The modest home of German immigrant Jacob Burkle, located near the banks of the Mississippi, provided refuge for runaway slaves during their flight North to freedom from around 1855 until the abolition of slavery and is now open as a museum.

***Cotton Museum***

Inside the Cotton Museum one finds the history of cotton and its significance to the history of our region. It could easily be argued—and has—that the growth of the cotton industry and the slave labor it took to harvest the cotton were the major causes of the American Civil War. Cotton is still king in the south and this museum explores this commodity through history, science, and trade.

***Fire Museum of Memphis***

All museums attempt to educate their visitors. Most museums use objects and collections to accomplish this, and the Fire Museum is no different. But the Fire Museum is located inside a very important historical property—Fire Engine House Number One, built in 1910. While the museum is a shrine to firefighting and the tools of the trade, it is most importantly a center for fire safety education. The primary purpose of this museum is to save lives by teaching our citizens fire prevention and fire emergency response.

***Memphis Rock 'n' Soul Museum***

This museum grew out of a collaboration with the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History (NMAH) to create an exhibit about the history of American music up to the birth of rock and roll and soul music, "Rock 'n' Soul: Social Crossroads." The deep connection with the Delta and with Memphis to all early American forms of music led to the formation of the Rock 'n' Soul Museum, which grew out of the original exhibit created by the Smithsonian. The museum offers a comprehensive music experience, looking at rural sharecropping music of the 1930s, up to the height of music made in Memphis in the 1950s, 60s and 70s.

**Museum Activity** *(answers on page 75)*

Discuss the museums above with your class. Perhaps you have made field trips to one or two of the institutions on the list.

1. What would you expect to see if you went to the Belz Museum?
2. What museums might have some overlap in their collections?
3. In what museum might you find a mummy?
4. Which museum would you most likely find some sheet music and a few recordings?
5. Which museum might have a scale model of the first Piggly Wiggly store?
6. What museum might have a work by Paul Cezanne or Paul Gauguin?
7. What museum might have a painting by Renaissance master Canaletto?
8. Which museums were actually homes in which people lived?
9. Where might you hear a listen on fire safety?
10. You would not be surprised to find welding going on at this museum _____.

Standards: Social Studies: 8.71, 8.85, 8.80, 8.86**6-8 GRADE SECTION 3: MEMPHIS STOPS TRAFFIC!*****Citizens to Preserve Overton Park vs. Volpe, Secretary of Transportation***

In 1956, Congress passed the Federal Aid Highway Act, more popularly known as the National Interstate and Defense Highways Act. Following this legislation, Interstate 40 – a 3,000-mile stretch of highway from Wilmington, North Carolina to Barstow, California—was planned to cut through the middle of Memphis, bisecting the popular and historically significant 342-acre Overton Park with a 3.5-mile segment of six-lane road.

In the 1950s, the federal government could lay claim to public park lands without using the power of eminent domain (the right of a government to take over private property for public use, with payment of compensation), so at the time park lands were considered to be desirable places to locate parts of the booming new interstate system. As part of planning for the right of way for building I-40, 26 acres of Overton Park was condemned by the State of Tennessee in the late 1950s.

Throughout the early 1960s, homes in the projected right-of-way were demolished, and the park and the Memphis Zoo within the park were denied any improvement funds from the City of Memphis for almost 15 years. However, the law changed with the passing of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966; a federal statute commonly called "Section 4(f)," which stipulated that the federal government had to demonstrate that there were no "feasible and prudent" alternatives to building through public lands.

By April 1968, the U.S. Secretary of Transportation publicly endorsed the plan that I-40 would go through Overton Park. The State of Tennessee acquired the right-of-way inside the park by September 1969, paying the City of Memphis \$2 million for the 26 park acres needed for the interstate and in November 1969, John Volpe, U.S. Secretary of Transportation from 1969-1973, formally approved the Tennessee Department of Highway's plan to build the interstate through the park, along with its design.

Citizens to Preserve Overton Park

Many Memphis citizens did not want the intrusion of the interstate into their peaceful neighborhoods, so they formed an advocacy group, the Citizens to Preserve Overton Park (CPOP), to fight the government's interstate plan. The "Section 4(f)" statute had been passed (1966), as well as section 138 of the Federal Aid Highway Act (1968), which stipulated that the "Secretary of Transportation may not authorize use of federal funds to finance construction of highways through public parks if a 'feasible and prudent' alternative route exists. If no such route is available, he may approve construction only if there has been 'all possible planning to minimize harm' to the park."

In December 1969, the Citizens to Preserve Overton Park filed a suit against Secretary of Transportation Volpe, claiming that he approved the plan without proving that there were no "feasible and prudent" alternative routes to building it through the park. The group fought the case all the way to the United States Supreme Court (see *Citizens to Preserve Overton Park, et al. v. Volpe, Secretary of Transportation, et al.*, 401 U.S. 402, 1971). On March 3, 1971, the Supreme Court decided in favor of the CPOP - **the first time in the history of America that the Supreme Court decided with citizens versus the government on behalf of the environment - a landmark decision!**

As a result of CPOP's grass-roots efforts, Interstate 40 had to be re-routed through the northern part of the city, avoiding Overton Park. The 26 acres taken over by the State of Tennessee were finally deeded back to the City of Memphis in 1987.

6-8 GRADE SECTION 3: MEMPHIS STOPS TRAFFIC! CITIZENS TO PRESERVE OVERTON PARK VS. VOLPE, SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION *Continued...*

Why Preserve Overton Park?

[Timeline and historical information according to the Overton Park Conservancy, <https://www.overtonpark.org/history>]:

In 1901, the City of Memphis purchased 342 acres of land, known then as “Lea’s Woods,” from Overton Lea, and renamed it Overton Park. The newly created Memphis Park Commission called for proposals to create a system of “parks, drives, and boulevards,” and the plan would also originally set aside approximately 200 acres of land to preserve old growth forest. For the final design of the park, a bid from landscape architect George Kessler was selected.

By 1906, the Overton Park golf course, the first public golf course in the region, and the Memphis Zoo were both established. In 1916, the Brooks Art Gallery (now the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art) was built, and the Overton Shell was built through the funds of the Works Progress Administration in 1936. According to the Levitt Shell organization, “The [Overton] Shell was designed by architect Max Furbringer, who modeled it after similar band shells in Chicago, New York and St. Louis. The WPA built 27 band shells and the Levitt Shell is one of only a handful that are still standing.”

The Memphis Academy of Art (later the Memphis College of Art) moved in 1959 from Victorian Village near downtown to the park. The 1950s and 1960s were a time of uncertainty for the park while the I-40 plans were being contested, but after the 1971 Supreme Court case ruling in favor of the Citizens to Preserve Overton Park, the park began to recover its momentum.

In 1979, the Overton Park Historic District was entered in the National Register of Historic Places. A new master plan for the park was approved in 1988, and in 2005, the Friends of the Levitt Pavilion Memphis, Incorporated took over responsibility for renovating the Overton Park Shell, renaming it the Levitt Shell in honor of support from the Mortimer & Mimi Levitt Foundation, as well as securing future funding, administration, and programming of the Shell, a vibrant part of culture in Memphis today.

Overton Park is one of the city’s most important environmental treasures. It preserves a part of a 10,000 year old ecosystem, with some trees dating to hundreds of years old. In 1911, George Kessler, the landscape architect and city planner who was hired to design Overton Park, said: “Nowhere in the United States, except in the Pacific Northwest, will you find tree growth as luxuriant as in the Western Tennessee and Eastern Arkansas forests, and in the two hundred acres of virgin forest in Overton Park you have a property which, as a heritage to the public for the enjoyment of nature, equals in value the cost of the entire park system to the present time” (Overton Park Conservancy).

According to a 2009 study of the flora in Overton Park Forest by Thomas Heineke, the old forest of Overton Park currently covers approximately 142 acres of the eastern one-half of the park, and in 2009 included a total of 332 flowering plant species from 85 plant families (245 native and 87 non-native species). In 2011, 126 acres of the Overton Park “old forest” were designated to be a “State Natural Area.” This designation protects the ecosystem from future development permanently (Overton Park Conservancy, “Old Forest Research”).

Overton Park also has its place in American literature. In the years since the landmark Supreme Court case, Overton Park has advanced its prominence as one of the most important features of the city. Overton Park is famous for many things, including its role in novelist Peter Taylor’s acclaimed short story “The Old Forest” (published in “The Old Forest and Other Stories”, which won the PEN/Faulkner award in 1985) – the story is set in the park’s Old Forest.

Activity on page 80

Standards: Social Studies: 8.71, 8.85, 8.80, 8.86

6-8 GRADE SECTION 4: CIVIL WAR AND THE AFTERMATH: STRATEGIES, OCCUPATION, DISASTER, AND MASSACRE

It could be said that our region came away from the American Civil War relatively unscathed, but toward the close, and in the first moments afterward, our region experienced three horrible events which illustrated the brutality of war and the cruelty of men. While the Naval Battle of Memphis was small in scale and duration, the Union occupation of the city was not well received.

Union Strategies

As a part of the “Anaconda Plan” by Union Lt. Gen. Winfield Scott to blockade water access along the East Coast and Gulf of Mexico, seizing the “western rivers” (Tennessee and Mississippi Rivers) was equally important for the control of troop and supply movement. When the Union fleet met the Confederate fleet in front of Memphis on June 6, 1862, the conflict lasted only 90 minutes. The Union fleet was basically triple the size of the Confederate fleet. No land approaches were necessary as all of the action was in the river. Five thousand citizens watched from the bluffs of Downtown Memphis. The Naval Battle of Memphis is the largest inland naval battle in the history of the world.

Union Occupation

For the last three years of the war, Memphis was very a strategic northern-occupied town. Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman planned the “March to the Sea” from Memphis; Gen. U.S. Grant planned part of the Battle of Vicksburg from the grounds of the Hunt Phelan Home on Beale Street. Memphis was a “hospital town,” housing over 5,000 wounded Union soldiers in ten locations (hospitals, hotels and warehouses). This was the start of the great medical tradition that Memphis has to this day.

Under martial law, commerce and contraband thrived. “How ironic it was that Northerners were selling guns and butter to Southerners, who killed Northerners . . . and Southerners were shipping food and cotton to Northerners, who killed Southerners.” Business was so good, that First National Bank opened in Memphis in the middle of the Civil War (1864), and today First Tennessee Bank (name changed in 1971) is the 14th oldest bank charter in America!

The Sinking of the *Sultana*

Another abject moment in the Memphis Civil War experience was the sinking of the *Sultana*, an overloaded steamboat carrying Union soldiers upriver. Those on the boat were recently freed prisoners of war. In the early morning hours of April 27, 1865—less than two weeks after Abraham Lincoln was assassinated in Washington DC, and inside of three weeks from April 9, 1865, the day Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses Grant, ending the war—the *Sultana* was moving just north of Memphis when one of its boilers exploded. The ship was carrying 2,300 men and the blast of the first boiler quickly initiated blasts in two of the remaining three boilers. Water, iron, and steam from the exploding boilers acted like a bomb; over 1700 men were killed either by the explosion or from drowning as the boat sank in the dark water. The sinking of the *Sultana* is the largest maritime disaster in the history of the United States.



Activity on page 80

6-8 GRADE SECTION 4: CIVIL WAR AND THE AFTERMATH: STRATEGIES, OCCUPATION, DISASTER, AND MASSACRE *Continued...*

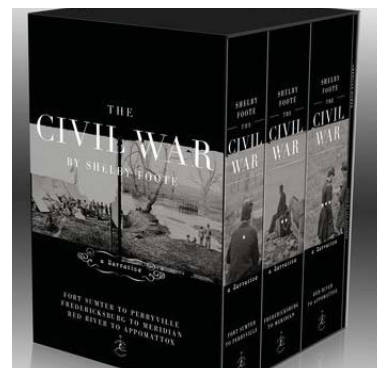
1866 Memphis Massacre

After the war, tensions between the races ran high in Memphis. On May 1, 1866, the bloody result of a scuffle between two wagon drivers, one white, one black, was the massacre of 46 African Americans living in South Memphis. A white mob formed when it was falsely believed that blacks were about to stage a large uprising; the mob was made of local police officers and many ex-Confederates and Confederate sympathizers and they murdered at least those 46 people, raped many women, burned all nine Freedman schools, and committed other atrocities. Historian Steven Ash writes, “The 1866 Memphis riot was one of the earliest—and would remain one of the bloodiest—battles in a vast counterrevolution carried out by white men in the South who were determined to deny full freedom and equality to the former slaves among them.” Testimony given to the U.S. Congress upon the review of these events, led to the passage of the 14th Amendment, granting full citizenship to Freedmen, and the 15th Amendment (or Reconstruction Act), establishing military districts and oversight in certain states.



A Civil War Celebrity in the Late 20th Century

A resident of a mostly hidden home on East Parkway South, just north of Christian Brothers University, Civil War historian and novelist Shelby Foote was one of the charming characters the South is famous for producing. Foote spent the twenty years of his prime adult life writing about the American Civil War. And it paid off. When the last of his Civil War trilogy was finished in 1974, Foote was known mainly to Civil War scholars and amateur historians. However, when Ken Burns *Civil War* took over the airwaves in 1990, Shelby Foote was the star among the many featured commentators. His career jumped through the atmosphere and he became—rare for a historian—a household name.



Biographer C. Stuart Chapman wrote of Foote, “After the series, Foote’s fame mushroomed exponentially. His books returned to print and sold tens of thousands of copies. Moreover, each day’s mail brought fan letters, invitations for speaking engagements, and interview requests. Articles about Foote soon appeared in *Newsweek*, *The New York Times*, and *The Washington Post*. Foote even gained literary accolades. Though Walker Percy had nominated him two decades earlier for membership in the American Academy of Arts and Letters (the Academy rejected Foote), now he was courted for membership.”

Foote was one of the interesting people of Memphis; he might be seen dining, or walking through Overton Park with his Sony Walkman about his head. He remained good friends throughout his life with the great writers of our region like Eudora Welty and Walker Percy. Foote died here in Memphis in 2005.

IMAGES:

Sultana April 26, 1865. Image credit: Thomas W. Bankes, Helena, Arkansas. Whole plate tintype, image of the Sultana taken at Helena, AR, on April 26, 1865, a day before she was destroyed. The view captures a large crowd of paroled Union prisoners packed tightly together on the steamboat’s decks. Public domain.

1866 Memphis Massacre. Image credit: Harper’s Weekly, 26 May 1866. Public domain.

Shelby Foote Civil War. Image credit: Covers of *Civil War: A Narrative* (3-volume set). Random House, 1958-74.

Standards:**English: 6-8.RL.KID.1**
Social Studies: 5.47

6-8 GRADE SECTION 5: ADVENTURE, ANYONE?

Largely lost to history, Richard Halliburton and his adventures are resurrected from time to time in books and at conferences. Though few people born in the 1970s through today will know of him, Halliburton's stories were read by parents who grew up in the 1920s and 1930s to their children of the 1950s and the 1960s. Often compared to Indiana Jones or some other swashbuckling adventurer, Halliburton was born just outside Memphis—Brownsville, Tennessee—and part of his literary and historical archive is kept at Rhodes College, where a bell tower was constructed in his honor in 1962.

In his biography entitled *The Forgotten Adventures of Richard Halliburton*, writer R. Scott Williams says of Halliburton's early years of travel writing that, "... he couldn't know just how much the dramatic changes that were taking place at the time would create the perfect environment for a young writer focused on youth, travel, and adventure." Before each home had a television set, before there was ever a computer or an internet, and before global access to travel, those fortunate enough to travel brought home stories and souvenirs which marked their experiences abroad. Writers like Richard Halliburton went one step further—they published books recounting their voyages.

For many, travel was an adventure by itself. Halliburton sought the dramatic everywhere he went, however, and in recording his experiences, brought a wild new flavor to the traditional travel narrative. His adventures would make him interesting, but Halliburton's writing would make him famous.

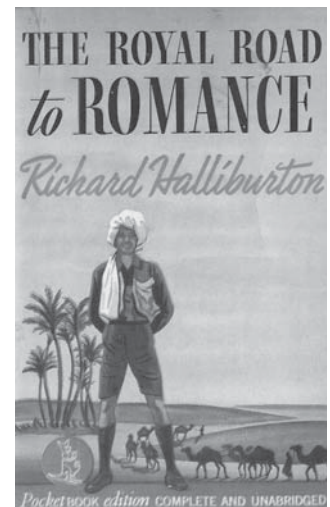
In titles such as *The Royal Road to Romance* (1925), *The Glorious Adventure* (1927), and *The Flying Carpet* (1932), Halliburton recorded such adventures as climbing the Matterhorn (and falling, only to be saved by a guide to whom Halliburton was tethered), secretly swimming in the pools of the sacred Taj Mahal under the moonlight, and flying across the Sahara Desert to reach the historical city of Timbuktu. Halliburton was intrigued by travel.

Fascinated by the world and its workings, Halliburton did not mind adding to the drama of a given situation. Finding himself in Gibraltar on the southern tip of Spain, he was told by the British administrators that for security, photography was not allowed. Pushing the limits of tolerance, he photographed many images from the island and was arrested. Halliburton always pushed the limits of what was reasonable in order to live in a better story, a story that he always had a large hand in creating.

Halliburton would also recreate adventures from heroes past, as in the case of Ulysses, the Greek king who devised the "gift" of the giant horse to the people of Troy.



Richard Halliburton



Royal Road to Romance

6-8 GRADE SECTION 5: ADVENTURE, ANYONE? *Continued...*

Ulysses—called Odysseus by the Greeks, from whom we derive our word *odyssey* which means journey—brought the Trojan War to a successful (for the Greeks, anyway) close but he had a difficult time returning to his home, Ithaca, because, as the story goes, he angered the god Poseidon. Ulysses' travels home included many unintended stops and many other battles and trials. His course took him to many places in the Mediterranean before he returned to his home at Ithaca.

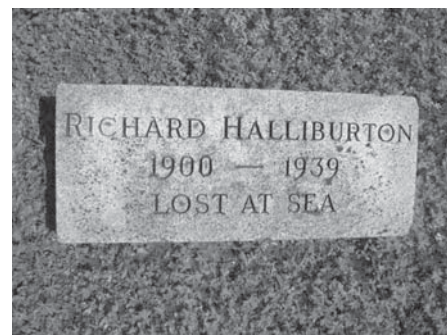
In his book *The Glorious Adventure*, Halliburton talked about his motivation for following Ulysses' path.

If you had to choose the most romantic corner in the world, what corner would you choose? I know mine. It is a corner that has fired the imagination for three thousand years. It is a corner packed with stirring drama, touched by pathos, and deluged with poetry. Such bitter tragedy it has known; such vivid personalities. It is the corner that Homer has immortalized in the first great masterpiece of European literature. It is Troy.

In 1925, Halliburton began his “odyssey” of following Ulysses' trek home and had his own adventures in so doing.

Such feats as this made Richard Halliburton's books very popular in the 1920s and 1930s. And while his books continued to sell and he achieved great popularity and fame, his challenge was always to increase the stakes and to do something bigger, different, and more exotic. Halliburton died at sea in early spring 1939. He was attempting to sail a Chinese junk—a wind-powered sailing boat—from Hong Kong to San Francisco.

Halliburton is memorialized on the campus of Rhodes College in Memphis where his parents dedicated a bell tower in his honor.



Richard Halliburton Grave Marker

ACTIVITY

Have students read a passage from a book by Richard Halliburton or any passage from a text written by someone recounting their travels in a narrative style. Discuss how the author uses tone, description, dialogue, and detail to convey a sense of their travels. Talk about the point of view of the author in understanding the location described in the text. Activity: Have you been on an adventure – a trip to somewhere far away, very different from your hometown? Have you visited another country or been to remote areas of the wilderness? Create your own narrative story based on a trip you have taken (or a trip that you can imagine you would take if you could). Write in first person and include details, description and dialogue to help your reader understand about your destination.

IMAGES:

Richard Halliburton. Image credit: Public domain.

Richard Halliburton Grave Marker. Image credit: By Thomas R Machnitzki CC BY 3.0, from Wikimedia Commons

Richard Halliburton Royal Road to Romance. Image credit: PocketBooks, Inc

Standards: Social Studies: K.30, 1.39, 3.16, 5.65

6-8 GRADE SECTION 6: DEATHS OF TWO MAJOR WORLD FIGURES, 1968 AND 1977

Martin Luther King, Jr., April 4, 1968



A sanitation workers strike in 1968 brought Nobel Peace Prize winner and civil rights activist Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to Memphis. King was a respected world figure and was the first president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

The strike was caused by the accidental deaths of two sanitation workers, Echol Cole and Robert Walker. Cole and Walker were killed when the garbage compacting unit in the back of the truck in which they were riding malfunctioned; both men were crushed to death. This horrible moment led to 1300 sanitation workers going on strike, and a fight between city hall and those men.

In trying to bring the administration of the City of Memphis and the striking sanitation workers together, Dr. King lost his life. He was brought down by an assassin's bullet on April 4 while he standing on the second-floor balcony of the Lorraine Motel. Dr. King's murder sparked riots throughout the nation, with large-scale violence and destruction in cities like Washington DC, Baltimore, and Chicago. To many, Dr. King's death was the tragic, pivotal moment in the civil rights movement that signified the darkest hour.

Dr. King was thirty-nine years old.

Elvis Presley, August 16, 1977



Few deaths are as commemorated as that of Elvis Presley. The King of Rock and Roll died at his home in Whitehaven on a hot August day; when news of his death spread across the media, Memphis once again was in the eyes of the world. Graceland was on the front page of newspapers everywhere.

Elvis had risen to fame in the middle of the 1950s, loved equally for his music and his good looks. Photographer Al Wertheimer was given an assignment by RCA to photograph Elvis in 1956 and in describing what he saw as different in the young entertainer, Wertheimer noted, "He made the young girls cry."

Early on, Elvis was considered a rebel and bad boy, and his songs and dancing were considered lewd by many. Later, after serving his mandatory two-year enlistment in the United States Army, he was received with more tolerance in American households. He would star in over thirty feature films and record hundreds of songs. Among the numerous awards he received over his lifetime, Elvis won three Grammys, all for gospel recordings.

Elvis was forty-two years old.

"Memphis has three kings. Elvis, the King, gave us our voice, B.B. King gave us our soul, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. gave us our conscience".

AC Wharton, former Mayor of Memphis

Activity on page 81

ACCORDING TO THE SHELBY COUNTY HISTORIAN, PART III

Memphis Music

In 1912, W.C. Handy **published the first blues song ever** – *The Memphis Blues* – from his Pace & Handy Publishing office on Beale Street making Memphis the “Home of the Blues.”

Highway 61 north from the Mississippi Delta is known as “The Blues Highway” to Memphis and Beale Street’s Handy Park, which many blues musicians traveled to the “Crossroads of America’s Music” – the **Beale Street** Entertainment District.

In 1948, **WDIA** Radio Station at 112 Union Avenue became the first “all-black formatted” radio station in the world. B.B. King and Rufus Thomas were two of its first deejays.

In 1954, Elvis Presley recorded “That’s All Right, Mama” at Sam Phillips’ Sun Studio, 706 Union Avenue making Memphis the “Birthplace of Rock ‘n’ Roll.”

On July 5, 1954, WHBQ radio deejay Dewey Phillips was **the first to play an Elvis Presley record** (“That’s All Right, Mama”) on the air during his nightly *Red, Hot & Blue* program – and had to play it 15 times that night, as the telephones rang off the wall with requests by local listeners.

In 1955, Sam Phillips and Kemmons Wilson began the first all-female staffed radio station in the world – **WHER** – by using only females as on-air personalities. WHER opened in the third Holiday Inn ever built, on Third Street.

In 1957, Jim Stewart and Estelle Axton began Satellite Records and later changed the name to the first two letters of each’s last name – **STAX** – and became the cradle of soul music in America – Soulsville USA.

The last home of Elvis Presley, **Graceland**, is the second most visited historic home in America – second only to the White House.



W.C. Handy



Beale Street



WDIA Radio Station



Sun Studio



Dewey Phillips



WHER Radio Station



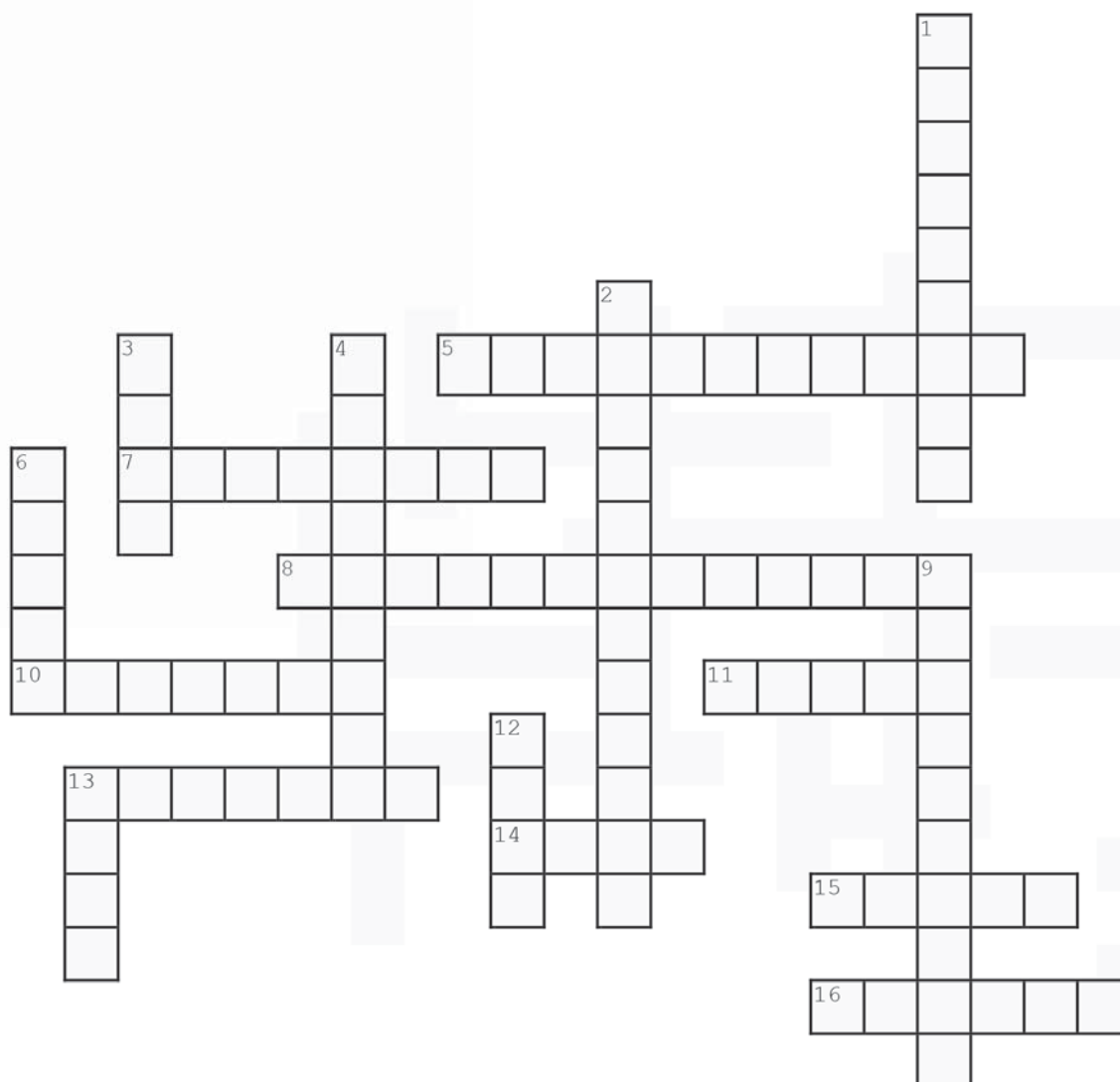
STAX



Elvis Presley

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

Name: _____



Across

5. Who is memorialized on Rhodes Campus
7. Motel where NCRM is located
8. WHBQ Radio deejay to first play Elvis
10. The largest maritime disaster in the history of the US is the sinking of the
11. Satellite Records was started by Jim Stewart and Estelle
13. Who published the first blues song
14. Museum dedicated to the study of the art and culture of ancient Egypt
15. What organization employs 11,000 people in Memphis
16. Encyclopedic museum of art

Down

1. Strike was caused by the accidental deaths of Robert Walker and
2. Highway 61 north from the Mississippi Delta is known as the
3. This museum is a tripartite
4. Second most visited historic home in America
6. Who made 'all the young girls cry'
9. 'That's All Right Mama' was recorded here
12. First 'all-black formatted' radio
13. First all-female staffed radio station

Answers on page 75

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE: MEMPHIS WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

Name: _____

C	T	K	M	V	W	E	O	X	V	T	S	Y	J	P	V	R	Y	H	A
J	C	B	Q	O	L	Z	F	I	E	J	I	S	L	I	X	N	T	P	X
Y	S	Z	S	V	R	B	X	E	D	E	F	W	G	N	A	P	N	Q	C
W	L	L	I	P	A	T	R	D	A	V	I	E	S	K	T	K	U	W	G
H	T	S	F	A	I	T	O	I	Y	I	U	Y	P	P	S	F	O	U	Y
N	A	R	U	A	S	L	L	N	Y	F	R	D	A	A	W	C	C	U	M
I	P	L	M	E	T	A	L	M	U	S	E	U	M	L	Y	E	Y	Y	W
G	N	O	L	A	Q	V	L	I	J	Z	X	D	Y	A	Q	Z	B	X	R
L	X	A	K	I	Y	D	N	A	H	C	W	O	W	C	N	M	L	I	H
Q	E	A	Q	R	B	U	D	G	L	P	S	P	R	E	O	G	E	F	T
B	O	Y	E	Z	Q	U	R	O	L	R	Y	L	F	F	T	E	H	O	Z
V	S	H	Y	U	L	A	R	W	D	I	A	E	G	O	T	D	S	K	Q
E	W	R	L	V	C	E	M	T	N	Y	A	X	W	G	O	I	L	Z	Q
C	Z	C	E	E	J	Y	B	M	O	W	U	X	N	E	C	X	H	Q	B
K	X	O	L	G	G	M	F	P	O	N	K	I	X	E	D	O	C	C	H
V	R	A	C	M	I	B	Z	J	I	R	K	Z	C	F	D	N	O	R	R
I	N	K	D	N	M	T	E	Q	A	R	I	U	J	K	T	E	P	R	E
D	E	Z	R	V	N	F	G	S	D	M	T	T	F	G	X	X	R	A	J
V	N	Z	K	E	G	V	C	T	A	I	C	E	K	H	F	D	E	Q	T
H	P	S	M	D	Y	E	U	O	D	Q	T	X	P	X	Z	G	S	L	H

Answers on page 76

9-12 GRADE SECTION 1: OVERVIEW

Memphis is a city with an interesting, volatile, and amazing history. In this Learning Unit we will focus on some powerful people who shaped the history of Memphis to the present day: Mayor E. H. Crump, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Danny Thomas, Shelby Foote, artists Carroll Cloar and William Eggleston, and the titans of Memphis music: W. C. Handy, Elvis Presley, Isaac Hayes, and many others.

By examining some of the most influential figures associated with Memphis, we can better understand how we have been shaped by dynamic and innovative individuals and momentous events crossing the stage of history in our fair city. From Memphis' E. H. "Boss" Crump, the archetype for powerful politicians of the early twentieth century, to the sweeping influence of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s 1968 visit to the city, where he supported striking African American sanitation workers seeking better working conditions and ultimately gave his life for the civil rights movement, the history of our city impacts where we are today and where we are going in the future.

In celebrating Memphis as the subject of Memphis in May's 2019 honored salute we have an opportunity to look closely at our own past and how our current government, economics, culture, and community have been influenced by those who have come before us. But in examining who we are, we can also begin to understand how Memphis has influenced the rest of the world: by shining a bright light on the injustice that led Dr. King to fight for civil rights in America and in Memphis, and by considering the impact of one man, famous for being a comedian and entertainer, who had a vision to save children from catastrophic illnesses, created one of the most important medical research facilities in the world right here in Memphis. Elvis Presley, a boy who grew up in Tupelo, Mississippi and Memphis, became a global music icon, whose image is more recognizable across the world than any other human face except for Jesus and Buddha. These individuals show us how one person with a dream can make a difference in the world, and how our dynamic city has influenced social justice, medicine, music, in America and worldwide.



Danny Thomas



Elvis Presley Jailhouse Rock



W. C. Handy

IMAGES:

Danny Thomas. Image credit: Public domain.

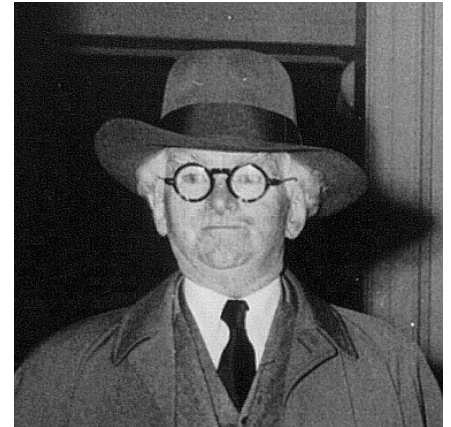
Elvis Presley Jailhouse Rock. Image credit: Library of Congress; publicity photo from Metro Goldwyn-Mayer, 1957.

W C Handy_2. Image credit: public domain.

9-12 GRADE SECTION 2: E. H. CRUMP

The history of the early twentieth century in Memphis would be incomplete without talking about Edward Hull Crump. E. H. Crump was a powerful and controversial political force in Memphis – he served as Mayor of the city from 1909-1915, but his political power in the region extended far beyond his role as an elected official. Crump was one of the classic political “bosses” of the early 20th century, controlling the slate of candidates who would run in city, county, and even state-wide elections, who would win, and what their agenda would be.

Crump was born near Holly Springs, Mississippi in 1874; his father, a cotton farmer who had fought as a Confederate Officer in the Civil War, died in the Yellow Fever epidemic when he was four years old. He moved to Memphis as a young man and worked as a bookkeeper for a carriage manufacturing business, eventually marrying the daughter of a wealthy merchant and purchasing the business. He later created his own business, the E. H. Crump Company, a highly successful insurance firm. Crump launched his political career in 1905 when he won a seat on the board of public works supervisors; two years later he resigned and successfully ran for the board of fire and police commissioners, then won the mayoral election as a Democrat in 1909 – with the help of W. C. Handy’s campaign song (see page 23).



E H Crump



E H Crump Statue

Political Power – Elected or Not

During Crump’s term as Mayor, he instituted many progressive reforms for the city, including better regulation of utilities, the creation of a juvenile court, and improved public health services. His administration was efficient in running fire protection and police services for the city. He also kept taxes low and managed government spending.

However, Crump is also known for developing the kind of behind-the-scenes political power that gave him the title “Boss” – as Mayor he fostered an intensely corrupt system based on “protection money” paid by illegal gambling, prostitution and alcohol to his business and campaign, and he paid poll taxes (an annual tax required to be paid in order to vote, serving as a deterrent to many African American voters) to control the outcome of elections. Crump was forced to resign as Mayor in 1915 because he refused to enforce a state law enacted in Tennessee in 1909 prohibiting the manufacture of alcohol anywhere in the state. Tennessee Governor Ben Hooper put forward new legislation in 1915 allowing states to remove politicians from office if they refused to enforce the law, so Crump resigned before any legal action could be taken.

against him. Undeterred, Crump was elected as a County Trustee a few months later, and in 1930 he won a seat in the US House of Representatives. At home in Memphis, Crump still held nearly dictatorial power; he enacted reforms that benefitted the city, but he also did not tolerate criticism (a journalist was beaten for investigating election fraud), and corruption continued (new businesses could not pass inspection unless they purchased an insurance policy from E. H. Crump and Company). His political machine also sought to suppress labor unions and African American leaders in the community.

Crump passed away in 1954, still holding tremendous political sway over the city, despite a defeat in 1948 from anti-Crump Democratic candidate Estes Kefauver, who won a Senate seat, and Gordon Browning, who became Governor. In 1957, Crump's controversial political career was celebrated by an 8-foot-tall bronze statue erected in Overton Park.

ACTIVITY

1. Class discussion/further reading: Using the history of E. H. Crump's career in Memphis, discuss the use of poll taxes, literacy tests, and other methods to obstructing voting rights during Reconstruction, especially in the South. How did these restrictions keep people (especially African Americans) from voting? How were they also employed to influence the outcome of elections? Are there contemporary voting laws that restrict certain people from voting?
 - Group or individual projects: research one aspect of voting rights, such as poll taxes or other former laws, or current laws (such as those excluding felons from voting) that might disenfranchise African Americans or other specific groups of people in the United States. Create a paper or presentation.
2. Class discussion/further reading: What was Prohibition in the United States, and how did it begin? Topics to research further include: the 18th Amendment to the Constitution, the Temperance Movement, the 21st Amendment.

IMAGES:

E H Crump. Image credit: *The Knoxville Focus*, published 6/8/2014. Public domain.

E H Crump Statue. Image credit: Photo by Warren Perry.

9-12 GRADE SECTION 3: DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. AND THE SANITATION WORKERS' STRIKE

This section reprinted from FacingHistory.org (<https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/memphis-1968/dr-kings-legacy-and-choosing-participate>)

The final months of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life and the immediate aftermath of his assassination marked an intensification of the nonviolent struggle on two fronts: fighting poverty and ending the Vietnam War. For Dr. King, these two issues became inseparable.

By 1967, the United States was deeply entrenched in the Vietnam War. Invoking the fear of communist expansion and the threat it posed to democracy, President Lyndon B. Johnson increased the number of US troops in Vietnam. In response, some civil rights leaders charged that President Johnson's domestic "war on poverty" was falling victim to US war efforts abroad. Dr. King struggled with an internal dilemma about finding a proper way to publicly denounce America's involvement in Vietnam. In a speech delivered on April 4, 1967, at Riverside Church in New York, King told the gathered clergy that it was "time to break the silence" on Vietnam. Drawing connections between the resources spent on the war and the rampant poverty in America, Dr. King warned that the objectives of the movement were undermined by the use of force abroad. Many of Dr. King's allies criticized his stance; they argued that it would split the movement and weaken its support base. President Johnson, who supported civil rights, saw Dr. King's public stance on Vietnam as a personal betrayal.

In addition to the nonviolent struggle to protest the Vietnam War, Dr. King also led efforts to end poverty. The Poor People's Campaign was the first national economic campaign led by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Building on their experiences in Chicago and other cities, the SCLC embarked on a drive designed to highlight the consequences of entrenched poverty. The organization planned a multiracial campaign which would adapt nonviolence to the struggle for economic equality in America. For Dr. King, the Poor People's Campaign was a bridge between civil rights and economics. The campaign was to end in a massive demonstration of solidarity in Washington, D.C.

While organizing the campaign, Dr. King received a call from his friend Reverend James Lawson, the man who had organized the trainings in nonviolence in Nashville during the sit-ins. Lawson invited Dr. King to Memphis, Tennessee, in support of a black sanitation workers' strike. Dr. King, believing the strike would highlight the link between race and poverty, accepted the invitation. On March 18, 1968, Dr. King delivered a speech to a crowd of seventeen thousand; ten days later he led protestors in a march through the city. For the first time, however, one of Dr. King's marches descended into violence. Disturbed, he flew back home, but vowed to return and lead a nonviolent march in Memphis.

Two weeks later, Dr. King was back in Memphis. On April 3, 1968, the evening before his assassination, he delivered his passionate and prophetic "I've Been to the Mountaintop" speech in Memphis at the Mason Temple

Standards:

Social Studies

9-12, AAH.35-41

9-12, TN.56-58

9-12, US.90

English

9-12, W.PDW.4

8-12, SL.CC.3



Church in which he encouraged the crowd to stay unified and maintain its focus on the issue of injustice and not focus on the violence that the media highlighted in its reporting of the strike. The next day, during a meeting with Andrew Young, Rev. Jesse Jackson, and other SCLC leaders at the Lorraine Motel, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., stepped out onto his balcony. Seconds later he was hit by a sniper's bullet; he died an hour later at a nearby hospital. The country was in shock: America had lost its most public voice of moral conscience. Disbelief quickly became fury, and on April 5, riots broke out in more than sixty cities across the US. For several days fires raged, leaving behind a desolate urban landscape of burnt cars, broken storefronts, and scorched buildings.

Struggling to regroup after Dr. King's death, the SCLC made the final arrangements for the Poor People's Campaign. Five weeks after Dr. King's assassination, thousands of protestors—the majority of them black—arrived in Washington, DC. There, in makeshift sheds and tents and in drenching rain, they built Resurrection City on the Mall, the site of the March on Washington five years earlier. In early June, the movement suffered yet another blow when Senator Robert F. Kennedy—considered a close ally of the freedom movement—was assassinated shortly after winning the California Democratic presidential primary elections. On June 24, 1968, with Kennedy and Dr. King gone, a saddened and confused nation watched police and public authorities raze Resurrection City.

Although a tragic loss to the movement, it is important for students to understand that social movements are rarely embodied in just one individual and that history is not always linear. As historian Timothy McCarthy notes, "For us to understand the forces of history that move history, we need to be open to the possibility that history doesn't move in neat line or forward progression. And that is particularly true when we are talking about freedom, equality and progress." In the final activity of this lesson, students will place themselves within these forces of history by reflecting on their vision for the world and how they might "choose to participate" in order to strengthen their communities, nation, and world.

DR. KING'S MOUNTAINTOP SPEECH

We mean business now, and we are determined to gain our rightful place in God's world. And that's all this whole thing is about. We aren't engaged in any negative protest and in any negative arguments with anybody. We are saying that we are determined to be men. We are determined to be people. We are saying that we are God's children. And that we don't have to live like we are forced to live.

Now, what does all of this mean in this great period of history? It means that we've got to stay together. We've got to stay together and maintain unity. You know, whenever Pharaoh wanted to prolong the period of slavery in Egypt, he had a favorite, favorite formula for doing it. What was that? He kept the slaves fighting among themselves. But whenever the slaves get together, something happens in Pharaoh's court, and he cannot hold the slaves in slavery. When the slaves get together, that's the beginning of getting out of slavery. Now let us maintain unity.

Secondly, let us keep the issues where they are. The issue is injustice. The issue is the refusal of Memphis to be fair and honest in its dealings with its public servants, who happen to be sanitation workers. Now,

DR. KING'S MOUNTAIN TOP SPEECH

we've got to keep attention on that. That's always the problem with a little violence. You know what happened the other day, and the press dealt only with the window-breaking. I read the articles. They very seldom got around to mentioning the fact that one thousand, three hundred sanitation workers were on strike, and that Memphis is not being fair to them.

I call upon you to be with us Monday. Now about injunctions: We have an injunction [against the demonstration] and we're going into court tomorrow morning to fight this illegal, unconstitutional injunction. All we say to America is, "Be true to what you said on paper." If I lived in China or even Russia, or any totalitarian country, maybe I could understand the denial of certain basic First Amendment privileges, because they hadn't committed themselves to that over there. But somewhere I read of the freedom of assembly.

Somewhere I read of the freedom of speech. Somewhere I read of the freedom of the press. Somewhere I read that the greatness of America is the right to protest for right. And so just as I say, we aren't going to let any injunction turn us around. We are going on.

We need all of you. And you know what's beautiful to me, is to see all of these ministers of the Gospel. It's a marvelous picture. Who is it that is supposed to articulate the longings and aspirations of the people more than the preacher? Somehow the preacher must be an Amos, and say, "Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream." Somehow, the preacher must say with Jesus, "The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to deal with the problems of the poor."

It's alright to talk about "long white robes over yonder," in all of its symbolism. But ultimately people want some suits and dresses and shoes to wear down here. It's alright to talk about "streets flowing with milk and honey," but God has commanded us to be concerned about the slums down here, and his children who can't eat three square meals a day. It's alright to talk about the new Jerusalem, but one day, God's preacher must talk about the [new] New York, the new Atlanta, the new Philadelphia, the new Los Angeles, the new Memphis, Tennessee. This is what we have to do.

Let us develop a kind of dangerous unselfishness. In the story known as The Good Samaritan, Jesus talked about a certain man, who fell among thieves. A Levite and a priest passed by on the other side. They didn't stop to help him. And finally a man of another race came by. He got down from his beast, decided not to be compassionate by proxy. But with him, administered first aid, and helped the man in need. Jesus ended up saying, this was the good man, this was the great man, because he had the capacity to project the "I" into the "thou," and to be concerned about his brother. Now you know, we use our imagination a great deal to try to determine why the priest and the Levite didn't stop. I'm going to tell you what my imagination tells me. It's

DR. KING'S MOUNTAIN TOP SPEECH

possible that these men were afraid. You see, the Jericho road is a dangerous road. Or it's possible that they felt that the man on the ground was merely faking. And he was acting like he had been robbed and hurt, in order to seize them over there, lure them there for quick and easy seizure. And so the first question that the Levite asked was, "If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?" But then the Good Samaritan came by. And he reversed the question: "If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?"

That's the question before you tonight. Not, "If I stop to help the sanitation workers, what will happen to all of the hours that I usually spend in my office every day and every week as a pastor?" The question is not, "If I stop to help this man in need, what will happen to me?" "If I do not stop to help the sanitation workers, what will happen to them?" That's the question.

Well. I don't know what will happen now. We've got some difficult days ahead. But it doesn't matter with me now. Because I've been to the mountaintop. And I don't mind. Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people will get to the promised land. And I'm happy, tonight. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.

ACTIVITY

- Have students read Dr. Martin Luther King's final speech entitled "I've Been to the Mountaintop," which he delivered to an audience in Memphis on the evening before his assassination. In this speech, Dr. King imagines reasons why people might choose between helping and not helping someone when they observe something that seems unjust or unfair.
- Before reading the speech, have the students reflect in a journal on the choice between helping or not helping in the face of an injustice. Write about a time when you observed something you thought was unjust or unfair, and you were not sure how to respond. What did you think and feel? What did you do?

<https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/memphis-1968/dr-kings-legacy-and-choosing-participate>

IMAGE:

Martin Luther King Jr. Image credit: <http://nobelprize.org/>. Public domain.

9-12 GRADE SECTION 4: CARROLL CLOAR AND WILLIAM EGGLESTON: MEMPHIS ARTISTS

Carroll Cloar (1913-1993) is a world-renown painter known for beautiful and almost surreal landscapes of rural Southern life; his work captures some of the feelings of youth and reveals keen observations about the time and landscape in which he grew up. Cloar was born in 1913 in Earle, Arkansas (about 30 miles from Memphis) and grew up on a farm. Many of Cloar's images show his uncanny ability to remember the details of childhood – the faces of adults and children, the natural landscape of the farm, and the scenes that were familiar – farmhouses, revivals, pool halls, and field hands. Cloar's work also suggests more universal themes like loneliness and isolation, the joys of childhood and the beauty of nature. Cloar studied art at the old Memphis Academy of Art (later the Memphis College of Art) and also in New York at the Art Students' League, and he was awarded both a McDowell and a Guggenheim artist fellowship to travel and work. He exhibited his work all over the United States beginning in the 1940s, and his work has been collected by major museums (the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Hirshhorn Museum at the Smithsonian, and the foreign embassy in Paris, for example). There is a permanent gallery at the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, which holds one of the finest and largest collections of his works, dedicated to Cloar's work. Cloar is important to Memphis because he not only became an acclaimed American artist, but because his paintings reveal the essence of a Southern past that is native to the region that was his home.

Standards:

Art

HS1-3.VA.R1.A

HS3.VA.R1.A

HS1-3.VA.R2.A



Photographer William Eggleston, born in Memphis in 1939, is revered as a pioneer of color photography. He grew up on a cotton plantation in Mississippi and began photographing in black and white in the early 1960s, choosing not to pursue a traditional path of education and instead teaching himself, with inspiration from published works by other photographers like Walker Evans and Henri Cartier-Bresson. In the 1970s Eggleston began experimenting with color photography as an art form; at the time it was used only for commercial advertising. His ground-breaking 1976 one-man exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, "Color Photographs," energized the art world with the realization that color photography could also be a stunning medium for art and established Eggleston as one of the most important photographers of the 20th century. Like Cloar, Eggleston portrays the world around him, often including everyday subjects from his native South, like a farmer's muddy truck, grain silos, or the contents of a freezer, in large-format, beautifully composed photographs that elevate

even minute details to great importance. At age 79, Eggleston still lives and works in Memphis, although he travels extensively for photography projects and continues to exhibit his work around the world.

9-12 GRADE SECTION 4: CARROLL CLOAR AND WILLIAM EGGLESTON: MEMPHIS ARTISTS
Continued...

ACTIVITY

1. Show the class an image of the painting *My Father Was Big as a Tree* by Carroll Cloar. <https://bit.ly/2lv0NVK>. Discuss how the artist's father is represented in the painting. What are some reasons he would show his father in this way? What feelings do you think the artist had about his father?
2. Do some computer searches for images by photographer William Eggleston, and discuss how his images elevate objects of everyday life by making every small detail of equal importance in the photograph.
3. Have students choose a person (a parent, other relative, etc.) who has an important role in their own life and create an image of that person that shows the feelings they have about that person or their relationship to that person.
4. Allow students to choose an everyday scene around them (a landscape, an interior, something they see in school each day) and create a color drawing, painting or photograph that focuses on the details of what they see, no matter how small they may be.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY: Schedule a class field trip to visit the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art to see the Carroll Cloar Gallery, which has many of Cloar's works on permanent display.

9-12 GRADE SECTION 5: ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL

One of the most prestigious medical research facilities in the world is nestled in the heart of downtown Memphis, Tennessee – St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. St. Jude is a hospital devoted to treating children with catastrophic diseases (like cancer), with the premise that no child should die “at the dawn of life.”

Danny Thomas

St. Jude was founded by comedian and entertainer Danny Thomas (1912-1991), and there is a legendary story about how it came to be. Thomas, born Amos Muzyad Yakhoob Kairouz to parents who immigrated to the US from Lebanon, was a struggling vaudeville entertainer in Detroit in the 1930s and also a devout Catholic. He feared for his ability to care for his growing family and wondered if he should continue his career in entertainment or find a different type of work, so he prayed to Saint Jude Thaddeus (a patron saint of lost causes) to show him his way in life. In return, he promised the saint, “I will build you a shrine.” Shortly after this prayer, Thomas' career began to turn around, and he began to achieve more financial stability, then eventually super-stardom on radio, film and television. By the 1950s, Thomas began planning his shrine to St. Jude – first to be a general hospital for children located in the South, and later a focused vision to create a unique research facility that would find a cure for childhood diseases like cancer and sickle cell disease, with the added benefit of ensuring that all children would be treated at no cost, freeing parents of the worry of medical bills so they could focus on the health of their child. Thomas not only contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars of his own money to build the hospital, he also enlisted the help of many other Arab-Americans to help fund the endeavor. ALSAC (the American Lebanese Syrian Associated Charities) was formed in 1957, and this organization is still the fundraising arm that keeps St. Jude open, thriving, and able to treat all patients without charge. St. Jude was also the nation's first fully integrated hospital, because Danny Thomas envisioned his facility as a place that did not discriminate against anyone on the basis of sex, race, or religion. The hospital's original star-shaped building was designed by African-American architect Paul Revere Williams.

Why is St. Jude in Memphis?

Memphis, Tennessee was chosen as the location for Thomas' new children's hospital at the recommendation of Danny Thomas' mentor, Cardinal Samuel Stritch, who was born in Nashville but later served as a priest at St. Patrick's Church in Memphis from about 1910-1920. In 1921, Stritch became the youngest American to be appointed to the rank of bishop in the Catholic Church, when he was made the Bishop of Toledo. In the 1930s and 40s Stritch served in Milwaukee and Chicago and became a close mentor and adviser to Thomas.

Until No Child Dies from Cancer

Even before the hospital facility in Memphis opened in 1962, ALSAC funded the first comprehensive study into sickle cell disease and how it affected African Americans. When St. Jude opened its doors, the survival rate for all childhood cancers was only **twenty percent** (for acute lymphoblastic leukemia, the most common form of childhood cancer, survival was only **4%**). Today, research at St. Jude has brought the **rate of survival for**



all childhood cancers up to 80%, and for acute lymphoblastic leukemia, the **survival rate has jumped to a staggering 94%**! St. Jude has been listed as the number one US children's hospital for cancer (U.S. News and World Report, 2010) and one of its researchers, Peter C. Doherty, Ph.D., was a co-recipient of the 1996 Nobel Prize for research into how the immune system kills cells infected with viruses. St. Jude is a world leader in developing new treatments for childhood cancer and conducts more clinical trials for cancer than any other children's hospital. And to this day, no patient treated at St. Jude receives a bill for treatment, food or housing.

St. Jude's Research Advances, 1962-2017

- Developed the first immunologic method (relating to the structure and function of the immune system, the part of the body that fights viruses and infections) to diagnose solid tumors in children. (1965)
- St. Jude was the first facility to have *acute lymphoblastic leukemia* patients successfully taken off treatment, which was the first proof that sustained remission was possible. (1966)
- St. Jude scientists developed an infant nutrition program for children in the Memphis area, enrolling thousands of infants, that became the model for the modern WIC program in America. (1969)
- St. Jude researchers developed a treatment that is effective for 55% of patients of neuroblastoma, the second most common type of solid tumor cancer for children. The same year, they developed a treatment that cures and prevents deadly pneumonia in children with compromised immune systems. Later it was found that this treatment also prevents pneumonia in AIDS patients. (1977)
- A St. Jude patient was the first to be cured of sickle cell disease with a bone marrow transplant. (1983)
- St. Jude develops a treatment to prevent HIV infection in children of infected pregnant women using chemotherapy. (1994)
- Peter Doherty, Ph.D., Chair of Immunology at St. Jude and Rolf M. Zinkernagel, MD, Ph.D., of the University of Zurich are awarded **the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine** for pioneering research explaining how the immune system recognizes and kills virus-infected cells. (1996)
- St. Jude is the first to adapt a computer-based, 3-D radiation therapy technique for pediatric brain tumor treatment. (1995)
- Discovery of a new strain of drug-tolerant bacteria helps researchers **begin to develop a drug to eradicate antibiotic-tolerant bacteria** and possibly antibiotic-resistant bacteria. (1998)
- Researchers discover the world's first "universal" marker to identify a stem cell (a cell that is able to divide to create more cells, or a cell that can develop for a particular purpose). Adult stem cells have become the primary weapon in fighting many chronic diseases in children and adults, including cancer. (2001)
- Using a system devised at St. Jude, scientists create a harmless version of avian influenza (bird flu) to be used as the master seed for vaccine manufacturing. The team produces a vaccine in only four weeks. (2003)
- St. Jude scientists **identified the specific cell that causes eye cancer** and found that certain mutations enable specific cells in the retina to multiply and cause *retinoblastoma*. (2007)

9-12 GRADE SECTION 5: ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL *Continued...*

- St. Jude tied mutations in two genes to the death of motor neurons associated with **ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease)** and other devastating neurodegenerative problems. (2013)
- St. Jude opened the world's **first proton therapy center** dedicated solely to children with cancer and developed a new computer tool (free to researchers worldwide) to find DNA duplications and deletions that play pivotal roles in adult and childhood cancers. (2015)
- St. Jude immunologists discovered how immune cells (called T cells) become "exhausted" (unable to do their jobs of attacking invaders such as cancer cells or viruses); patients treated with immunotherapies against cancers are often non-responsive or experience a relapse of their disease, and this may be due to T cell exhaustion. The finding offers **a new pathway to more powerful and durable immunotherapies**. (2017)

ACTIVITY

1. Have students (individually or in small groups) choose one of the scientific advances made by St. Jude –one of the medical advances or catastrophic diseases listed here (such as acute lymphoblastic leukemia, bone marrow treatment, radiation therapy, adult stem cells, etc.) or they may conduct further research and find others that have been conducted at St. Jude. Have students research the chosen topic and prepare a research paper or oral presentation to present the topic to the class.
2. St. Jude has invested enormous resources into scientific research, and sometimes the results of their studies have had unforeseen benefits in treating all sorts of medical conditions. Have students choose one of the important St. Jude research studies listed above and create a research presentation poster that explains the main purpose of the research, the results of the study, and how the results are important for how doctors understand and treat certain diseases.

Standards: Science: 3-5.ETS1, 9-12 SCRE.ETS2

9-12 GRADE SECTION 6: MEMPHIS-ARKANSAS AND HERNANDO DE SOTO BRIDGES

The skyline of Memphis is dominated by sweeping views of the Mississippi River, with two major automobile bridges that cross the mighty river and connect Memphis to the neighboring state of Arkansas.

The older of the two bridges, the Memphis-Arkansas Memorial Bridge, connects Interstate 55 from Memphis to West Memphis, Arkansas. Prior to its opening in 1949, there had been two bridges across the river connecting Tennessee and Arkansas – the 1892 Frisco Bridge (only for railroads) and the 1916 Harahan Bridge, a railroad bridge that eventually included two carriageways that were hung on each side to allow for one lane of automobiles to cross in each direction. This solution quickly failed to meet the growing number of cars on the roads, leading to excessive traffic and long waits to cross. The wooden Harahan Bridge also caught fire in 1928, forcing the shutdown of the entire bridge for more than a year and making an auto crossing at Memphis temporarily impossible. Finally, in 1939 a bridge commission (Chaired by E. H. Crump, see page 56) formed to lobby for a new bridge crossing; Crump is often credited with securing the funds to begin the new bridge, which took another ten years to complete.

Design of the Memphis-Arkansas Bridge

The fire that nearly destroyed the wooden Harahan Bridge in 1928 revealed the importance of planning a steel structure for the new crossing. Modjeski and Masters Engineers developed a cantilever through truss design that would accommodate two concrete paved lanes for automobiles going in each direction. A **cantilever bridge** uses *cantilevers* – structures that project horizontally into space, with support at only one end. Large cantilever bridges also use trusses built from steel, and they often pair two cantilevers supported on either side of the bridge with horizontal projections that meet in the middle. The Memphis-Arkansas Bridge is 5,222 feet long and still carries more than 60,000 cars per day, and it has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 2001.



Hernando de Soto Bridge

Memphis' most recognizable bridge is its newest Mississippi River crossing – the Hernando de Soto Bridge, opened in August 1972. Often referred to by locals as “the new bridge” or sometimes “the M Bridge,” the bridge’s design began in 1960, as initial plans for Interstate 40’s connection of Memphis to Little Rock were underway. The design of the bridge is called a “**through arch bridge**,” meaning that it is made from materials such as steel or reinforced concrete, and the base of the arch structure is below the deck but the top rises above it. Thus, the deck runs “through” the arch, and cables or beams that are in tension suspend the central part of the deck from the arch. The Hernando de Soto Bridge is a continuous cantilevered cable-stayed steel through arch design. The through arch design also gives the bridge its distinctive “M” shape. The Hernando de Soto Bridge carries six lanes of Interstate 40 across the river, is 9,432 feet long, and it carries more than 40,000 cars per day across the river.



9-12 GRADE SECTION 6: MEMPHIS-ARKANSAS AND HERNANDO DE SOTO BRIDGES *Continued...***ACTIVITY**

1. Show the class the different types of bridge design. Here are some good classroom resources for bridge building: <https://www.lcps.org/cms/lib/VA01000195/Centricity/Domain/5867/BridgeDocs.pdf>
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/buildingbig/bridge/basics.html>
2. To demonstrate the concept of the cantilever bridge design, have students work in teams to design and build their own bridge out of up to 200 popsicle sticks and hot glue. Bridges must have a span of at least 14 inches and be able to hold a twenty-pound weight. But, it must be longer than 14 inches because when it has been constructed, it will be placed between two chairs so it is at least one foot above the floor for a weight bearing test. Students should try to use the fewest number of popsicle sticks while still achieving their goals. In addition to meeting the structural and weight bearing requirements, the bridge will be judged on its aesthetics as well, so have them use their creativity. Students will evaluate the effectiveness of their own bridge designs and those of other teams, and present their findings to the class. A resource sheet for bridge designs may be found here: <http://tryengineering.org/lessons/popsiclebridge.pdf>

IMAGES:

Memphis & Arkansas Bridge. Image credit: By Thomas R Machnitzki (thomas@machnitzki.com) [CC BY 3.0], from Wikimedia Commons
Hernando de Soto Bridge. Image credit: Photo by Warren Perry

Standards: Social Studies: 9-12 TN.59,.62; 9-12 US.86

9-12 GRADE SECTION 7: FROM ELVIS TO ISAAC – THE MEMPHIS MUSIC LEGACY

On August 16, 1977 the eyes of the world turned to Memphis, Tennessee, as the news broke that Elvis Presley was dead at the age of forty-two. This portrait of Elvis is on view in the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery's "Bravo!" exhibition, and was painted by artist Ralph Wolfe Cowan, during the years 1976 to 1988. In a 2006 letter to NPG, Mr. Cowan told of the portrait:



"It wasn't until the early 1960s when I was asked to open the first portrait-painting studio at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas. It was then that Elvis walked in—put his hands across the door and said, "You can't get away from me this time. . .and I'll wear whatever you want!" I started drawing him that night on a blank 48-inch, circular canvas that was abandoned when you told me he preferred the full-length size. When the full-length painting was finished, Elvis came by and personally carried the four-foot by seven-foot painting across Las Vegas Blvd to his room at the Aladdin Hotel where he always stayed. . . .

After Elvis died...I was able to restore and repair the circular Elvis portrait. As you can see, I added the red shirt and blue sky to make it different from the Graceland painting. . . .I've heard from clients who have seen the portrait hanging in the National Portrait Gallery that it gets great attention. For that I am very happy."



In 2008, as legions of Elvis fans gathered in Memphis for the thirty-first annual candlelight vigil outside of Graceland, the world had already been reminded of the power of Memphis music with the passing of Isaac Hayes on August 10, 2008. A multiple Grammy winner, Hayes also won an Oscar for the soundtrack of the 1971 blaxploitation film *Shaft*. He was the first African American to receive an Oscar for best motion picture soundtrack. Most recently, he endeared himself to a new generation, voicing the role of "Chef" on the animated series *South Park*.

The impact of Memphis music on the world scene cannot be overestimated; Memphis, Tennessee is to music as nineteenth-century Paris is to art. In 2000, the Smithsonian National Museum of American History installed a permanent music exhibition in Memphis in the Memphis Rock 'n' Soul Museum; NMAH curator Charlie McGovern noted that "it's the first time the Smithsonian has created an entire exhibition and turned it over to the community where it began." The exhibition, "Rock 'n' Soul: Social Crossroads," is a narrative of Memphis music history and is located at the historic corner of Beale Street and Highway 61. A later study by the Rock 'n' Soul Museum declared the city name Memphis is mentioned in more song lyrics than any other city on earth.

There is no such thing as a single, stylized Memphis sound; Memphis music stretches across all the disciplines of modern music and occupies space in rock and roll, country and western, rhythm and blues, rap, hip-hop, and pop. Among the names Memphis claims are the Box Tops, the Gentrys, Charlie Rich, Otis Redding, the BarKays, Steve Cropper, Donald "Duck" Dunn, Booker T and the MG's, the early Sun Studio artists, Aretha Franklin, and WC Handy. Both Led Zeppelin and REM have recorded at Memphis' Ardent studio, which also serves as home base for ZZ Top.

IMAGES:

Elvis Presley RW Cowan. Image credit: Elvis Presley by Ralph Wolfe Cowan, 1976-1988, oil on canvas, National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution; gift of R. W. Cowan.

Isaac Hayes. By William Henderson darkfiber22 (Isaac Hayes) [CC BY 2.0], via Wikimedia Commons

Shaft Film Poster. Image Credit: Published in Ebony magazine, July 1971, Vol. 26 No. 9. CC BY-NC 2.0

Activity on page 81

ACCORDING TO THE SHELBY COUNTY HISTORIAN, PART IV

Medicine

In 1909, Dr. Willis C. Campbell opened **Campbell Clinic**, then organized the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at the University of Tennessee, co-founded the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons (AAOS) and served as its first president. Dr. Campbell wrote the seminal textbook (*Campbell's Operative Orthopaedics*) for our country. Today, Campbell Clinic is recognized as a world leader in sports medicine, pediatric orthopedics, joint replacement, orthopedic oncology, physical medicine and rehabilitation, and surgery of the hand, hip, foot, knee, shoulder and spine.



The University of Tennessee Health Science Center was founded in Memphis in 1911. Currently, over 2,800 students are enrolled in three undergraduate programs, twenty graduate programs and three professional programs in colleges of Allied Health Sciences, Dentistry, Graduate Health Sciences, Medicine, Nursing and Pharmacy. UTHSC has a \$2 billion economic impact in the Memphis area annually, and more than 4,500 graduates live and provide health care services in Shelby County.



The Southern College of Optometry was founded in Memphis in 1932 and ranks as one of the nation's leading institutions of optometric education. The Eye Center is one of the largest and most clinically advanced vision and eye care centers in the country. Alumni live and practice in all fifty states and abroad.



The Shea Ear Clinic was founded in Memphis in 1926 and represents the highest level of patient care in the fields of otolaryngology and audiology.



Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. More than 80 years ago, a group of women shared a vision that would save the lives of literally tens of thousands of children. These women began a sewing circle in 1923 called the Le Bonheur Club to make clothing for Memphis' orphans at the Leath Orphanage. As the Le Bonheur Club membership grew, so did its commitment to children. Soon the Club moved beyond clothing orphaned children to attending their health care needs. By providing transportation to doctors' appointments, these benevolent ladies became well known to local pediatricians. In 1944, when the Pediatric Society dared to dream of a hospital dedicated to children, the Le Bonheur Club was called.



Now, more than 50 years later, the hospital has grown in size and scope. Still bearing the name of its founders, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital has grown to be the premier pediatric health care facility for children throughout the region. Le Bonheur's clinical excellence continues today with the nation's largest surgical brain tumor program and one of the top 10 busiest emergency departments.

With a medical staff of more than 550 pediatricians, Le Bonheur serves the health care needs of children from throughout the United States and the world.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital was founded by entertainer and humanitarian Danny Thomas in Memphis in 1962. At that time, St. Jude's success rate for the cure of catastrophic childhood diseases of leukemia and cancer was less than 5%. Today, the success for cure reaches 90%! No child pays for his care and it costs over \$1.7 million dollars per day to operate the hospital. There are over 21,000 fundraising events held annually throughout the world for the benefit of St. Jude.



St. Jude was the first racially integrated hospital in Memphis (in 1962) as it received patients without regard to race, creed, color, or national origin. St. Jude employs over 3,200 people in the research and care facilities, and recently was voted the # 1 Most Trusted Non-Profit Brand in America. The Danny Thomas-ALSAC Pavilion on site provides visitors a daily experience into the life of Danny Thomas as an entertainer and humanitarian, as well as the story of the hospital and the fund-raising arm, the American Lebanese Syrian Associated Charities (ALSAC).

Regional One Health is home to the oldest hospital in Tennessee, chartered in 1829. Throughout its 180-year history, the hospital has evolved significantly, housing a children's hospital, tuberculosis hospital, military hospital, maternity hospital and ultimately the Regional Medical Center it is today with nationally recognized Centers of Excellence and a commitment to providing quality healthcare to all citizens of the Mid-South. The Elvis Presley Memorial Trauma unit opened in 1983.



A regional healthcare resource providing accessible, efficient, quality health care for individuals throughout a 5-state region within 150 miles of Memphis, Regional One Health Center is a comprehensive healthcare delivery system anchored by highly respected Centers of Excellence including trauma, burn, neonatal intensive care and high-risk obstetrics. In addition to its notable Centers of Excellence, it provides an array of primary care services through its Health Loop and subspecialty clinics.

Baptist Memorial Health Care (BMHC) system was founded in Memphis in 1912 by the Southern Baptist Conventions of Tennessee, Arkansas and Mississippi. BMHC operates fourteen hospitals and 42 other various health care facilities in the Mid-South and statewide, has over 12,000 employees, provides \$333 million in uncompensated care and has an over \$2 billion economic impact in the region. The Baptist Health Institute is the only place in the Mid-South where physicians perform adult heart transplants.



Methodist Healthcare. With seven hospitals, multiple home health agencies and outpatient clinics to serve the Mid-South, Methodist is one of the largest hospital systems in the country and has been named as one of the 2009 Top 100 Integrated Healthcare Networks by SDI, the nation's premier rating system. Specialty areas include the Neuroscience Institute, the Transplant Institute, the Cancer Center, the Cardiovascular Institute, and pediatrics at Le Bonheur Children's Hospital.



International Children's Heart Foundation (babyheart.org). The mission of the International Children's Heart Foundation (ICHF) is to bring the skills, technology and knowledge to cure and care for children with congenital heart disease in developing nations. ICHF does this regardless of country of origin, race, religion or gender. Their stated goal is to make the need for ICHF obsolete. They work toward this goal through medical mission trips, where they operate on children and educate local healthcare professionals. ICHF sends teams of doctors and nurses overseas to perform open heart surgery on babies that are 30 days or younger who are born with congenital heart disease. Since 1991, teams have visited 49 foreign countries and performed over 7,700 free operations.





MEMPHIS IN MAY NOTES AND SOURCES

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- <https://mem200.com/>
- <http://worldpopulationreview.com/us-cities/memphis-population/>
- <https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/nation-now/2018/03/14/fedex-investing-1-billion-expand-its-memphis-hub-improve-network/424574002/>
- <https://realestate.usnews.com/places/tennessee/memphis>
- <https://csimarket.com/stocks/competitionSEG2.php?code=UPS>
- <https://www.tennessean.com/story/money/industries/health-care/2017/12/04/drug-alcohol-abuse-saps-2-billion-tennessee-annually-under-the-radar-impact-opioid-epidemic/909253001/>

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- <http://www.blackpast.org/aah/martin-luther-king-assassination-riots-1968>
- https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/retropolis/wp/2018/02/12/i-am-a-man-the-1968-memphis-sanitation-workers-strike-that-led-to-mlks-assassination/?utm_term=.d0a015a5b223
- <https://www.dmagazine.com/publications/d-magazine/1993/june/the-catherine-terrible/>
- <https://www.bizjournals.com/memphis/stories/2003/02/24/daily28.html>

UNIT SPECIFIC SOURCES

K-2

Kindergarten - 2nd Grade Learning Unit

Chickasaw Legend:

- <http://www.tngenweb.org/campbell/hist-bogan/tennessee.html>
- <https://www.chickasaw.net/Our-Nation/History/Prehistoric.aspx>
- <http://www.fivecivilizedtribes.org/Five-Tribes/Chickasaw/Chickasaw-History>
- <https://www.encyclopedia.com/history/united-states-and-canada/north-american-indigenous-peoples/chickasaw>

Blues Music:

- <https://folkways.si.edu/lead-belly-and-his-legacy-of-southern-song/music/tools-for-teaching/smithsonian>
- <https://www.pbs.org/theblues/classroom.html>

Pyramids:

- <https://www.history.com/topics/ancient-history/the-egyptian-pyramids>
- <https://www.ancient.eu/pharaoh/>

Memphis, TN pyramid:

- <https://www.nytimes.com/2008/10/27/us/27land.html>
- <http://archive.commercialappeal.com/news/bass-pro-shops-at-the-pyramid-a-timeline-ep-1059874937-324407861.html/>

Ramesses II Statue:

- <http://www.memphisart.org/artwork/ramesses-ii/>
- https://www.ancient.eu/Ramesses_II/
- <http://www.memphis.edu/egypt/about/history.php>
- http://articles.latimes.com/1987-02-01/news/mn-319_1_pharaoh-ramses-ii

6-8

6th - 8th Grade Learning Unit

Memphis Stops Traffic:

- Memphis Public Library, Citizens to Preserve Overton Park Collection, digitized 2009. <https://memphislibrary.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p13039coll1/id/69/>
- <https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/401/402/>
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9-12

9th - 12th Grade Learning Unit

E.H. Crump:

- <https://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entries/edward-hull-and-crump/>
- <https://memphislibrary.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p13039coll1/id/62/>
- Miller, William D. "E. H. Crump: Family Background and Early Life." Tennessee Historical Quarterly. Vol. 20, No. 4 (DECEMBER, 1961), pp. 364-380. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/42625771>
- <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=C000955>

ANSWERS TO QUIZZES & PUZZLES

The Memphis Quiz. Page 38

1. Chickasaw Indians
2. Holiday Inn
3. Mississippi
4. Kathy Bates & Cybill Shepherd
5. Piggly Wiggly
6. Pink Palace, the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, the National Civil Rights Museum, Dixon Gallery and Gardens, the Rock and Soul Museum, and the Fire Museum
7. Edward Hull Crump
8. FedEx
9. Four
10. Anfernee "Penny" Hardaway
11. Yellow Fever
12. Elvis
13. Benjamin L. Hooks
14. Abe Fortes
15. STAX
16. W.C. Handy
17. Cotton
18. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr./Sanitation Workers Strike
19. Sun Studios
20. Childhood Cancer

Two Part Word Search Puzzle, Page 39

1. MATA
2. Cotton
3. Piggly Wiggly
4. Clarence Saunders
5. Frisco Bridge
6. Proud Mary
7. Big M
8. Pink Palace
9. Seismologists
10. Timber
11. Three
12. Frayser
13. Whitehaven
14. Barbecue
15. Ducks Unlimited



Museum Activity Answer Key, Page 44

1. collection of works from Asia, objects representing modern Judaica, and contemporary art that will honor survivors and their families
2. Dixon Gallery and Gardens and Memphis Brooks Museum of Art
3. Institute of Egyptian Art and Archeology
4. Memphis Rock N Soul Museum
5. Memphis Pink Palace
6. Dixon Gallery and Gardens
7. Memphis Brooks Museum of Art
8. Mallory-Neely Home, Magevney House, and Davies Plantation
9. Fire Museum of Memphis
10. National Ornamental Metal Museum

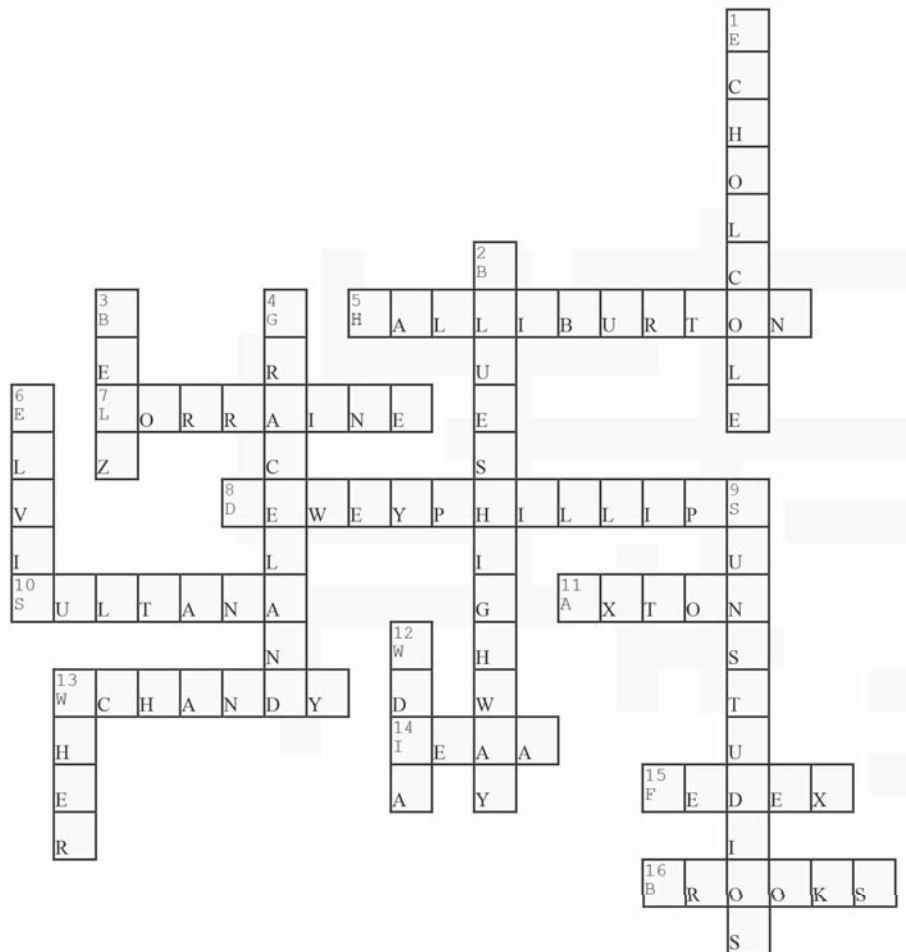
Crossword Puzzle Answers, Page 53

ACROSS

5. Halliburton
7. Lorraine
8. Dewey Phillips
10. Sultana
11. Axton
13. W.C. Handy
14. IEAA
15. FedEx
16. Brooks

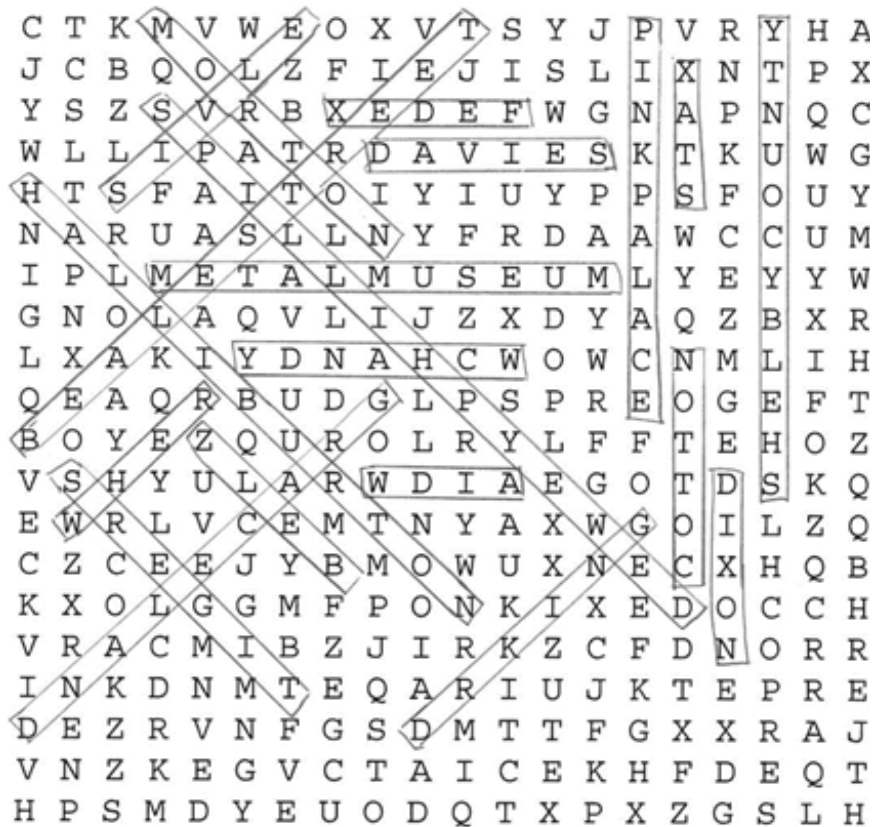
DOWN

1. Echol Cole
2. Blues Highway
3. Belz
4. Graceland
6. Elvis
9. Sun Studios
12. WDIA
13. WHER



ANSWERS TO QUIZZES & PUZZLES

Word Search Puzzle, Page 54



EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Your study and exploration of Memphis continues past the pages of this curriculum guide. Each year, Memphis in May produces many educational and cultural events and contests to showcase its honored country/city. Throughout the year, Memphis in May offers contests, exhibits, performances and other educational opportunities for teachers and students to learn all about Memphis. Additional information about each, as well as deadlines, is available at www.memphisinmay.org. All programs are subject to change or modification.

THE OFFICIAL MEMPHIS IN MAY CLASSROOM PROGRAM

Make Your Classroom the Official Memphis in May Classroom

Why should you become a Memphis in May Classroom? Cultural awareness is at the core of Memphis in May International Festival's commitment to the education of the Mid-South community. The mission of Memphis in May International Festival is to promote and celebrate Memphis culture, foster economic growth, and enhance international awareness through education. Help us achieve that goal by starting in your classroom!

Participation is simple! Just incorporate a combination of Memphis in May resources into your classroom. It is very easy to get started. Register online now! Visit <http://bit.ly/MIMEducation> for details.

WORLD CARGO CRATES

"The Bluff City" is sending a bit of its own culture straight to your classroom! This year, Memphis in May wants to show you what Memphis is all about. The festival loads the goods into five different "World Cargo Crates" designed to be transported to Memphis area schools. "World Cargo Crates" are loaded with educational items, cultural items, historical items, games, musical instruments, costumes, handicrafts, and more, as well as a description of each item and its significance to Memphis culture. Your school can reserve a crate free of charge for a one-week period so that classrooms throughout your school will have the chance to explore the crate. The Memphis in May "World Cargo Crates" are available for reservation for dates between January and May 2019. **To reserve a crate for your school, or for more information, please email education@memphisinmay.org.** One week per school, please. The crate will be delivered to your school before 12 noon Monday morning and picked up the following Monday by 10:00 a.m., courtesy of Blue Sky Couriers.

Applications, additional details, deadline information, program changes and frequent education opportunity updates are available online at <http://bit.ly/MIMEducation>

EDUCATION CONTESTS

This year we are making it easier to sign up for our programs and integrate Memphis in May Curriculum into your classroom activities. Memphis in May provides easy to use resources to enable teachers to integrate education about the honored city into your classroom. Memphis in May will recognize teachers that utilize these resources during the year as an Official Memphis in May Classroom. A minimum level of participation is required. Visit <http://bit.ly/MIMEducation> for details.

Become the Official Memphis in May Classroom Program

Classroom Competition/Grades K-12

Teachers, you can win \$1,000 just by incorporating the honored city of Memphis into your classroom. Involve the students in your classroom or grade level in classroom decorations and activities with a theme based on this exciting city. Fill your classroom (and your students' minds) with images of Memphis culture. Visit <http://bit.ly/MIMEducation> for details. Entries must be received by **Friday, May 10, 2019, at 5:00 pm.**

**Teachers Can Win
\$1,000**

Sedgwick CMS Teacher Competition

Teacher Competition / Grades K - 12

Now teachers have the chance to win alongside their students! Whether you always participate in our programs, or whether you are considering incorporating Memphis in May into your classroom for the first time, this competition is for you. Memphis in May will recognize the teachers with the most outstanding classrooms, teachers who utilize Memphis in May's programming to supplement their curriculum and introduce local culture to their students. Sign up for and participate in one or more of Memphis in May's education programs and events, complying with all the guidelines for that program. Participate in as many of the programs and events as possible to increase the appeal of your classroom. Entries will not be judged solely on the quantity of Memphis in May activities, but rather the main criteria will be the educational impact, creative use of curriculum, and quality of the learning and educational activities in the classroom. Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at <http://bit.ly/MIMEducation>. Entries must be received by **Friday, May 10, 2019, at 5:00 pm.**

**Teachers Can Win
\$1,000**



EDUCATION CONTESTS

Creative Writing Contest Grades 4 - 12

The Memphis in May Creative Writing Contest promotes literary creativity and allows students to incorporate what they have learned about the Memphis in May honored city through the written word. Creative Writing Contest entries can include any type of literary work, fiction or non-fiction, including but not limited to poems, essays, short stories, plays, narratives, scripts and biographies. First, second and third place winners will be chosen in three grade categories (Upper Elementary - 4th & 5th grades, Middle - 6th to 8th grades, High - 9th to 12th grades). The competition is open to students attending any public, private or home school within the Shelby County area. Each entry must be submitted with a completed Creative Writing Contest entry form (typed or printed only). Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at www.memphisinmay.org (subject to change, check website for any updates). Entries must be received by **Friday, March 22, 2019, at 5:00 p.m.** Entries must be submitted to the Memphis in May International Festival offices at 56 S. Front Street, Memphis, TN 38103.

International Paper Children's Poster Competition Grades K - 12

****New this Year- The International Paper Children's Poster Competition is now open to all grades!***

The 2019 International Paper Children's Poster Competition promotes the creative artistry of students in grades K-12. Patterned after the Memphis in May Fine Arts Poster Program, the student's work must depict some aspect of the honored city of Memphis through the medium of drawing and coloring. One student will become the Grand Prize winner and their work depicting Memphis, its beauty and its culture, will then be printed and sold by Memphis in May as the 2019 International Paper Children's Poster. Since there will be a limited number of signed and numbered prints created, this lucky young artist's poster has the potential of becoming a unique collector's item. The Grand Prize winner will sign and number 100 of the prints. First, second and third prize winners will also be recognized in various grade divisions. All artwork must be designed and executed by the student. Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at www.memphisinmay.org. Entries must be received by **Friday, March 22, 2019, at 5:00 p.m.** Entries must be submitted to the Memphis in May International Festival offices at 56 S. Front Street, Memphis, TN 38103.

Multimedia Competition (Video or PowerPoint) Grades 9 - 12

This competition promotes design creativity and allows students to incorporate what they have learned about Memphis through overall presentation, graphic design, and written word. Students have a chance to create unique presentations illustrating the honored city's history, geography, people, language, food, art, and music. This competition is a wonderful tool to get students acquainted with PowerPoint, an important program in the business world, as well as multimedia. As an additional activity, teachers may also opt to have students present in front of the class, giving them valuable practice in communication skills, all while exposing them to history and culture. This competition is open to all high school students attending public, private, or home school within the Shelby County area. First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded. Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at www.memphisinmay.org. Entries must be received by **Friday, March 22, 2019, at 5:00 p.m.** All entries must be submitted to the Memphis in May offices at 56 S. Front Street, Memphis, TN 38103.

World Cargo Crate Photo Contest

The World Cargo Crate Photo Contest encourages teachers to use their cameras to capture special moments in their classrooms. The photographic entries portray special “learning moments” between the students, their teachers, and the unique items from the honored city. As most of these items are foreign to the students, their reactions of interest, surprise, and curiosity are clearly visible in the photos. The winning teacher receives a Memphis in May prize package for their classroom and the privilege of being the first to reserve the World Cargo Crate for the upcoming school year. The winning teachers and students also get to see their pictures displayed on the Memphis in May website as “the face” of the World Cargo Crate for the next year. Up to 5 photos may be submitted per entry, along with the teacher’s name and title, school name, school address, school phone number, and teacher’s email address. Entries must be received by **Friday, May 17, 2019, at 5:00 p.m.** Entries must be digital and may be submitted by email or on a CD to 56 S. Front Street, Memphis, TN 38103. For more information, see Memphis in May’s website at **www.memphisinmay.org** or contact **education@memphisinmay.org** with any questions.

Exhibitions & Field Trip Opportunities

Each year Memphis in May International Festival plans cultural exhibitions and performances involving art, artifacts, speakers and performers from the honored city. In 2019, teachers and students can expect many opportunities to explore the beauty, culture and history of Memphis. Many exhibits and performances offer great opportunities for classroom field trips. As the festival approaches, regularly visit the Memphis in May International Festival’s website at www.memphisinmay.org for updates on exhibitions, field trip opportunities and additional educational materials. You may also call 525-4611, ext. 108, and request that you be placed on an education email list to be notified of any opportunities throughout the year.

NEED A CURRICULUM GUIDE OF YOUR OWN?

We teach students to share, but for your own copy of this Curriculum Guide, visit the Memphis in May website at **www.memphisinmay.org**. This entire Curriculum Guide about Memphis is available online in a downloadable PDF format, so you can print your own Curriculum Guide copy for free!

Questions?

Memphis in May also organizes a speaker’s bureau which offers presentations to schools and civic organizations. Requests can be made by calling 525-4611 or by emailing **mim@memphisinmay.org**.

Join the Memphis in May Education Email List!

Receive Information and applications as soon as they become available.
To join the list, simply email **education@memphisinmay.org**!

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

3-5 Grade Section 5: Communities Within Memphis - pg. 34

Have a class discussion on civic responsibility – what it means to be engaged in your own community, and how students (even young people their age) can be informed about issues that affect their communities and participate in making a change for the better. Emphasize a three-step process: 1. Becoming informed about an issue, 2. Speaking up about the issue, and 3. Taking action to make the community better. Divide the class into small groups, and have each group choose one activity they can do to improve their school or home community. Have the groups share their initial ideas with the class, then have each group decide how they will present their action plan (in writing, a poster, an online project, etc.). Allow groups to continue developing their ideas into the chosen project medium, then present final projects to the class. Finally, have the class decide on a few of the groups' action plans that would be reasonable to implement, and have students vote on one plan to put into real action.

Resource:

<https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/unit-plans/teaching-content/making-difference-through-civic-action/>

6-8 Grade Section 3: Memphis Stops Traffic - pg. 46

Have students research information on the *Citizens to Preserve Overton Park vs. Volpe* court case and the legal battles the advocacy group fought to preserve the park from the interstate system. Choose one side of the legal argument – whether it was correct to prevent the interstate system from bisecting the park or whether it should have been allowed to go forward as originally planned. Use primary sources from the Memphis Public Library collection and secondary sources to support your position. How does this research help you to understand the value of individuals and small groups to create change in their communities?

6-8 Grade Section 4: Civil War and the Aftermath - pg. 47

The teacher will place on the board the words *Titanic* and *Sultana*. The teacher will ask the students what they know about each one. More than likely, the students will know more about the *Titanic*. The teacher will explain to the students that over the next several days they will learn about the fate of the *Sultana*, which is the greatest maritime disaster in American history.

The teacher will ask students to create a cause and effect chart. While working with partners, the teacher will instruct the students to use the Mississippi History Now article identified below) to complete the chart by putting the appropriate cause answers on the left of the events listed below and the appropriate affect answers on the right of the listed events:

Events

- Lack of good roads and access to the railroad
- Transport of Union soldiers was delayed
- The *Sultana* was overcrowded as it left Vicksburg
- The *Sultana* exploded
- The *Sultana* disaster is not well-known

Once the chart has been completed, the teacher will facilitate a class discussion about the article by asking for student volunteers to share information from the charts. The teacher can record student responses on the whiteboard or on an overhead transparency.

Resource:

<http://mshistorynow.mdah.state.ms.us/articles/319/surviving-the-worst-the-wreck-of-the-sultana>

6-8 Grade Section 6: Deaths of Two Major World Figures, 1968 and 1977 - pg. 51

Activity: Use the information about these two important men as a starting point for a discussion about biographies and researching biographical information. Share a biography of Elvis Presley or Martin Luther King, Jr. and ask students to work in small groups to generate questions about his life. Then ask for their ideas for ways to categorize this information (such as childhood events, turning points, things he is famous for, etc.). Allow students to come up with their own choices of a famous person who might have a biography written about him or her (narrow down to a few choices). Have students check out a biography of one of their famous people from the library. Have students create a graphic organizer (like the one here: http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/lesson_images/lesson243/web.pdf) to help them organize biographical information and develop a presentation for the class.

Resource:

<http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/biography-project-research-class-243.html?tab=4#tabs>

9-12 Grade Section 7: From Elvis to Isaac – The Memphis Music Legacy - pg. 69

Activity: class discussion - how has Memphis music culture provided one example of art's capacity to challenge the racial boundaries that have so often structured American life? Discuss what life was like in the 1950s and 60s in segregated America, and then talk about black musicians who played in Memphis from this period who were popular with both black and white audiences (Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Muddy Waters, B.B. King). What role did Elvis Presley play in this musical crossover? Have students identify a contemporary work of art, whether it be a piece of music, a movie, a play, a painting, a photograph, or a television series that they feel is at the forefront of breaking down racial, social, or gender barriers within society today. Have them develop a one-page written response including the following:

What is the title of the work of art and who is the artist? Which racial, social, or gender barrier do you believe this piece of art is challenging?

Why do you feel this work of art is particularly powerful? What specific details address the issue you've identified?

Connect this work of art to the music coming out of Memphis during the 1950s and 60s. Use specific examples that you learned during class to draw out your comparison.

Resource:

<http://teachrock.org/lesson/the-memphis-sound-a-case-study-of-music-and-integration-in-mid-century-america/>

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