

#8605

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HEROES OF SPORT

Grade Levels: 7-12
20 minutes

AIMS MULTIMEDIA

1 Instructional Graphic Enclosed



DESCRIPTION

Archival footage shows sports heroes in action in this three-part interactive program. Covers African Americans such as Jesse Owens, track and field star of the 1936 Berlin Olympics; Jackie Robinson, first African American to play major league baseball; and Joe Louis, professional heavyweight boxer who defended his title 25 times. Pretests encourage viewer participation.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Historical Understanding

- ◆ Standard: Understands the historical perspective
 - Benchmark: Analyzes the values held by specific people who influenced history and the role their values played in influencing history
 - Benchmark: Analyzes the influence specific ideas and beliefs had on a period of history

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To identify the impact of the lives of Jesse Owens, Jackie Robinson and Joe Louis.
2. To present the challenges African-American athletes confronted in order to participate in sports in the early 20th century.
3. To increase the understanding of the experience of the African-American athlete in the early 20th century.

VOCABULARY

1. Aryan
2. integration
3. oppression
4. segregation



BEFORE SHOWING

1. Prepare students for their role in playing a history game.
 - a. Determine if students will play on an individual or team basis.
 - b. Provide each student or team with a "History Game Worksheet." (See INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHICS.)

- c. Begin the video and allow the program to play until the narrator completes question #3. Stop the tape each time the star symbol (accompanied by an audible beep) appears on the screen. This will occur after every third question. Allow the student or team time to answer the three questions before continuing. In the segment following the three questions, the video presents historical footage to provide the answers for each question.
 - d. After each set there will be a bonus question. The answers will appear at the end of the video.
2. Discuss vocabulary words used in the video.

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. Discuss how people have been oppressed throughout history.
2. Discuss the significance of Jesse Owens, Jackie Robinson and Joe Louis in U. S. history.
3. Discuss oppression in the United States.
 - a. What groups have been oppressed?
 - b. Examine the history of discrimination against African-Americans.
 - c. Discuss the effects of discrimination.
4. Discuss ways to overcome prejudice.

Applications and Activities

1. Create a list of groups who have battled oppression throughout history.
2. Create a time line of major achievements for African-Americans throughout U. S. history.
3. Create a time line of major achievements for the Deaf community throughout U. S. history.
4. Lead a class discussion about the similarities and differences of the struggle for equality for the African-American and the Deaf communities.
5. Research the 1936 Berlin Olympics.
 - a. What were Hitler's views about non-Aryan races?
 - b. How did his attitudes affect the 1936 Olympics?
 - c. Why were Jesse Owens wins so significant in Berlin?
 - d. How have the Olympics changed since Berlin?
 - e. Create a list of African-American Olympians.
6. Imagine yourself in the shoes of Jackie Robinson.
 - a. Speculate on the challenges he faced and how he may have dealt with them.
 - b. Compare these challenges to your personal challenges.
 - c. What was the importance of what Jackie Robinson did?
 - d. What if Jackie Robinson decided against playing for the Dodgers?
7. Explore the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s. Write a research paper about an African-American figure from this period.

8. Research oppression of African Americans in the United States. Lead a discussion on how oppression has affected their lives.
9. Joe Louis was born into poverty and was able to rise above and wear down social barriers with his boxing talent. Prepare a presentation on another sports hero who overcame similar barriers.
10. Construct a bulletin board promoting multiculturalism.



RELATED RESOURCES



Captioned Media Program

- Black Olympians 1904-1984: Athletics and Social Change #2155
- The Jackie Robinson Story #2191

World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid-safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **THE JESSE OWENS FOUNDATION**

<http://www.jesse-owens.org/about1.html>

Includes information on the life and times of Jesse Owens, photos and the organization created in his name.

- **THE JACKIE ROBINSON SOCIETY**

<http://www.utexas.edu/students/jackie/>

Contains information on Robinson including photos, articles and his involvement in the Civil Rights movement.

- **THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN JOURNEY**

<http://www.worldbook.com/fun/aajourney/html/index>

Includes an online exhibit about the journey of African Americans from Africa to America. Also includes sections on slavery, the Civil Rights movement, literature and music.

INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHICS

- HISTORY GAME WORKSHEET

History Game Worksheet

Student/Team Name: _____

Directions: Place the letter of the correct answer on the line provided. Answers will be revealed at the end of each round. Answers for the bonus questions will be revealed at the end of the video.

Pretest	Posttest
a) _____	a) _____
b) _____	b) _____
c) _____	c) _____

Round One

- 1) _____ (5 points)
- 2) _____ (10 points)
- 3) _____ (15 points)

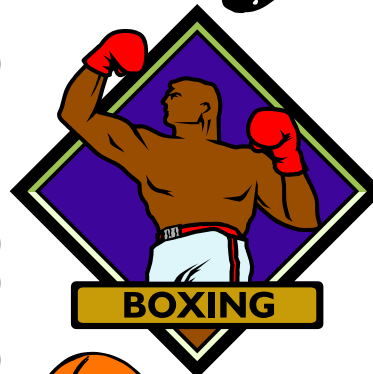
Bonus Question: _____ (10 points)



Round Two

- 4) _____ (5 points)
- 5) _____ (10 points)
- 6) _____ (15 points)

Bonus Question: _____ (10 points)



Round Three

- 7) _____ (5 points)
- 8) _____ (10 points)
- 9) _____ (15 points)

Bonus Question: _____ (5 points)

