

# TODAY *in* GEORGIA HISTORY

## January 11, 1955: Marvin Griffin Sworn In as Governor Daily Activity

### Introduction:

The daily activities created for each of the *Today in Georgia History* segments are designed to meet the Georgia Performance Standards for Reading Across the Curriculum, and Grade Eight: Georgia Studies. For each date, educators can choose from three optional activities differentiated for various levels of student ability. Each activity focuses on engaging the student in context specific vocabulary and improving the student's ability to communicate about historical topics.

One suggestion is to use the *Today in Georgia History* video segments and daily activities as a "bell ringer" at the beginning of each class period. Using the same activity daily provides consistency and structure for the students and may help teachers utilize the first 15-20 minutes of class more effectively.

### Optional Activities:

**Level 1:** Provide the students with the vocabulary list and have them use their textbook, a dictionary, or other teacher provided materials to define each term. After watching the video, have the students write a complete sentence for each of the vocabulary terms. Student created sentences should reflect the meaning of the word based on the context of the video segment. Have students share a sampling of sentences as a way to check for understanding.

**Level 2:** Provide the students with the vocabulary list for that day's segment before watching the video and have them guess the meaning of each word based on their previous knowledge. The teacher may choose to let the students work alone or in groups. After watching the video, have the students revise their definitions to better reflect the meaning of the words based on the context of the video. As a final step, have the students compare and contrast their definitions to their textbook, dictionary or other teacher provided materials definitions.

**Level 3:** Provide the students with the vocabulary list and have them use their textbook, a dictionary, or other teacher provided materials to define each term. After watching the video, have the students write a five sentence paragraph based on the provided writing prompts.

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## Vocabulary/Writing Prompts:

### Vocabulary Terms

Staunch  
Segregationist  
Defying  
Crimps  
Integrate  
Complex  
Nuclear Reactor  
Corruption  
Oath

### Writing Prompts

1. In a five-sentence paragraph use your own words to define and contrast the terms integrate and segregationist.
2. Can a person's legacy be a mixture of good and bad? What is Marvin Griffin's legacy? In a five-sentence paragraph use what you learned about Marvin Griffin's time as governor to explain what you think his legacy is.
3. Why do you think Marvin Griffin was unable to keep his promise of not raising taxes? In a five-sentence paragraph use your knowledge of American government to explain why state governments raise taxes and what those funds are used for.

## Related Georgia Performance Standards:

### Reading Across the Curriculum (Grades 6-12)

#### SSRC1 Students will enhance reading in all curriculum areas by:

- c. Building vocabulary knowledge
  - Demonstrate an understanding of contextual vocabulary in various subjects.
  - Use content vocabulary in writing and speaking.
  - Explore understanding of new words found in subject area texts.
- d. Establishing context
  - Explore life experiences related to subject area content.
  - Discuss in both writing and speaking how certain words are subject area related.
  - Determine strategies for finding content and contextual meaning for unknown words.

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**Grade 8 Georgia Studies**

**SS8H10 The student will evaluate key post-World War II developments of Georgia from 1945 to 1970.**

- a. Analyze the impact of the transformation of agriculture on Georgia’s growth.
- b. Explain how the development of Atlanta, including the roles of mayors William B. Hartsfield and Ivan Allen, Jr., and major league sports, contributed to the growth of Georgia.
- c. Discuss the impact of Ellis Arnall.

**SS8H11 The student will evaluate the role of Georgia in the modern civil rights movement.**

- a. Describe major developments in civil rights and Georgia’s role during the 1940s and 1950s; include the roles of Herman Talmadge, Benjamin Mays, the 1946 governor’s race and the end of the white primary, Brown v. Board of Education, Martin Luther King, Jr., and the 1956 state flag.
- b. Analyze the role Georgia and prominent Georgians played in the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s and 1970s; include such events as the founding of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), Sibley Commission, admission of Hamilton Holmes and Charlayne Hunter to the University of Georgia, Albany Movement, March on Washington, Civil Rights Act, the election of Maynard Jackson as mayor of Atlanta, and the role of Lester Maddox.
- c. Discuss the impact of Andrew Young on Georgia.

**Economics, 9-12**

**SSEMA3 The student will explain how the government uses fiscal policy to promote price stability, full employment, and economic growth.**

- a. Define fiscal policy.
- b. Explain the government’s taxing and spending decisions.