

TODAY *in* GEORGIA HISTORY

December 21, 1911: Josh Gibson Born
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.

T O D A Y *in* GEORGIA H I S T O R Y

Vocabulary/Writing Prompts:

Vocabulary Terms

Trade School
Towering
Prodigious
Consecutive
Disputed
Exhibition
Barrier

Writing Prompts

1. Using your knowledge of the time-period explain why there are probably no precise records or Josh Gibson's performance and how you would handle that problem as a historian writing about Josh Gibson's career.
2. Have you ever heard of the Negro League? In a five-sentence paragraph use your knowledge of history to explain segregation and why Josh Gibson did not play on a team with Whites.
3. Have you ever considered a career in sports? What makes someone talented enough for professional sports? In a five-sentence paragraph describe the characteristics of a great player. In your answer use Josh Gibson as an example of a great player.

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.