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.
Vocabulary/Writing Prompts:

Vocabulary Terms
Drafted
Conscientious Objector
Commission
Promoter
Pitched
Opponent
Evidence

Writing Prompts
1. What does it mean to be drafted during wartime? What is a conscientious objector? In a five sentence paragraph use your own words to explain what the terms draft and conscientious objector means.
2. Has anyone ever done you a favor and then said “now you owe me one.” In a five sentence paragraph explain why Atlanta Mayor Sam Russell owed Senator Leroy Johnson a favor, and then explain how this allowed the Muhammad Ali fight to take place.
3. Why do you think no other city would host a fight with Muhammad Ali? In a five sentence paragraph explain why it was controversial for Atlanta to host a fight with Muhammad Ali in 1971.

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.

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.

**United States History**

**SSUSH20 The student will analyze the domestic and international impact of the Cold War on the United States.**

a. Describe the creation of the Marshall Plan, U.S. commitment to Europe, the Truman Doctrine, and the origins and implications of the containment policy.
b. Explain the impact of the new communist regime in China and the outbreak of the Korean War and how these events contributed to the rise of Senator Joseph McCarthy.
c. Describe the Cuban Revolution, the Bay of Pigs, and the Cuban missile crisis.
d. Describe the Vietnam War, the Tet Offensive, and growing opposition to the war.
e. Explain the role of geography on the U.S. containment policy, the Korean War, the Bay of Pigs, the Cuban missile crisis, and the Vietnam War.