

BATTER UP LESSONS

**The Rise of The Negro Leagues
developed by
Ms. Michelle Hamlett’s Historiography Classes 2020-2022
Eastside High School**

Learning Objective(s)	Essential Question(s)	Suggested Activities	Standards
<p>The student will be able to trace the rise of Negro League baseball from the end of the Civil War to Jackie Robinson’s entry into the White leagues in 1947.</p> <p>The student will be able to explain the meaning of the terms “gentlemen’s agreement” and “color line”.</p> <p>The student will be able to explain the role of Rube Foster in the development of the Negro Leagues.</p> <p>The student will be able to correlate the sport of Negro League baseball with the economics surrounding it.</p>	<p>How did racial segregation lead to the growth of Negro League baseball?</p>	<p>Cite reasons why you think the “gentlemen’s agreement” was unwritten.</p> <p>Build a timeline depicting the formation/disbandment of the different Negro Leagues.</p> <p>State five facts about Rube Foster.</p> <p>Explain, with examples, how Negro League baseball supported businesses in African American communities.</p>	<p>6.1.12.CivicsDP.4.a: Compare and contrast historians’ interpretations of the impact of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments on African American's ability to participate in influencing governmental policies.</p> <p>6.1.12.GeoPP.4.a: Use evidence to demonstrate the impact of population shifts and migration patterns during the Reconstruction period.</p> <p>6.1.12.EconNM.7.a: Assess the immediate and long-term impact of women and African Americans entering the work force in large numbers during World War I.</p>

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Research Sources

Note: At the time of this publication these websites were active.

“Telling the story of baseball in America in the first decades of the 20th Century while only using the names of stars like Babe Ruth, Rogers Hornsby and Joe DiMaggio is indeed only telling half the story. For while Major League Baseball powered on as America’s favorite sport through the turn-of-the-century, the Roaring 20s, the Great Depression and World War II, an equally talented and equally entertaining league – if not more so, in the eyes of some – was also thrilling fans in many of the same ballparks.”

<https://www.mlb.com/history/negro-leagues/history>

“Negro League Baseball got its start thanks to the increasing popularity of two things after the Civil War: baseball and segregation.”

<https://www.history.com/topics/sports/negro-league-baseball>

“What teams composed Negro League Baseball? This question is complicated and will be met with a variety of answers.”

<https://www.mlb.com/phillies/community/educational-programs/uya-negro-league/growth-of-negro-league-baseball>

“Few men have dominant careers as baseball players. Even fewer have success as a manager. But Rube Foster excelled on the diamond as a manager and as an executive, earning him the recognition as the “father of black baseball.” “

<https://baseballhall.org/hall-of-famers/foster-rube>

“At their height the Negro Baseball Leagues held World Series and all-star games. They were especially successful in World War II when black urbanites, flush with cash from well-paid defense jobs, crowded into stadiums across the nation. The Negro Baseball Leagues provided African Americans their own American pastime.”

<https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/negro-baseball-leagues-1920-1950/>

See charts, 1945 Average Yearly Salaries

<https://yogiberramuseum.org/when-baseball-led-america/lesson2-life-in-the-north/>

“Formed 100 years ago, the Negro Leagues were a resounding success and an immense source of pride for black America.”

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/how-baseballs-negro-leagues-defied-stereotypes-segregation-180974201/>

“Negro League Baseball fueled an economic engine that powered a system of smaller, though equally essential businesses in urban African America.”

<http://www.thevillagecelebration.com/negro-league-baseball-african-american-economy-2/>