1619 Project
Week 1

Notes for the Instructor

Greetings!

Thank you for browsing through the curriculum resources I created. This slideshow can be used in your classroom daily to facilitate reading through the texts and learning about the topics presented within the project.

This slideshow is a completely customizable, optionable supplemental to the unit plan provided. It is not my intent to provide you with a script or modify your teaching methods. Take what you need, leave the rest

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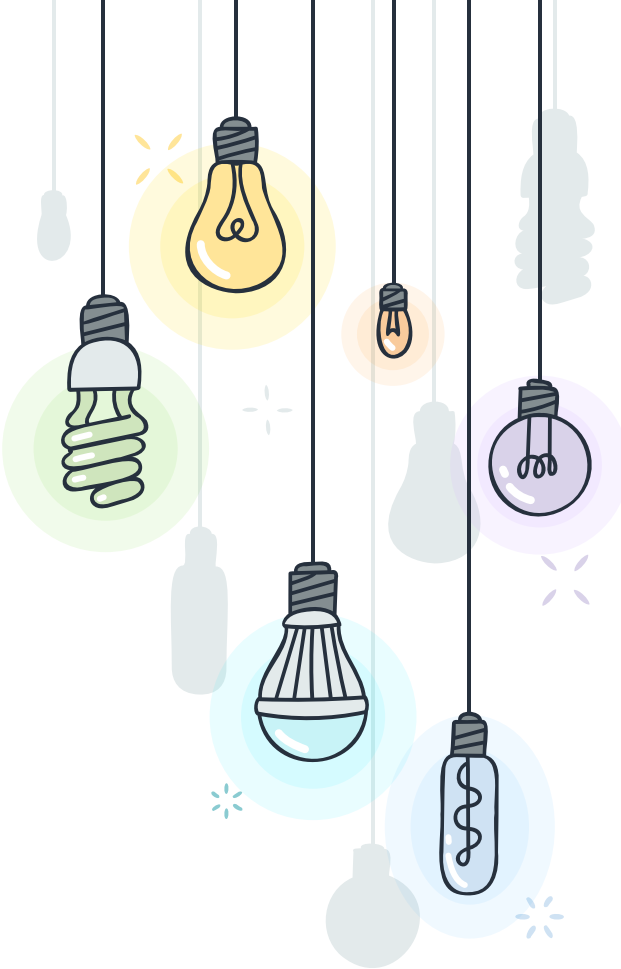


Essential Questions

What do you know about slavery and how did you learn it?

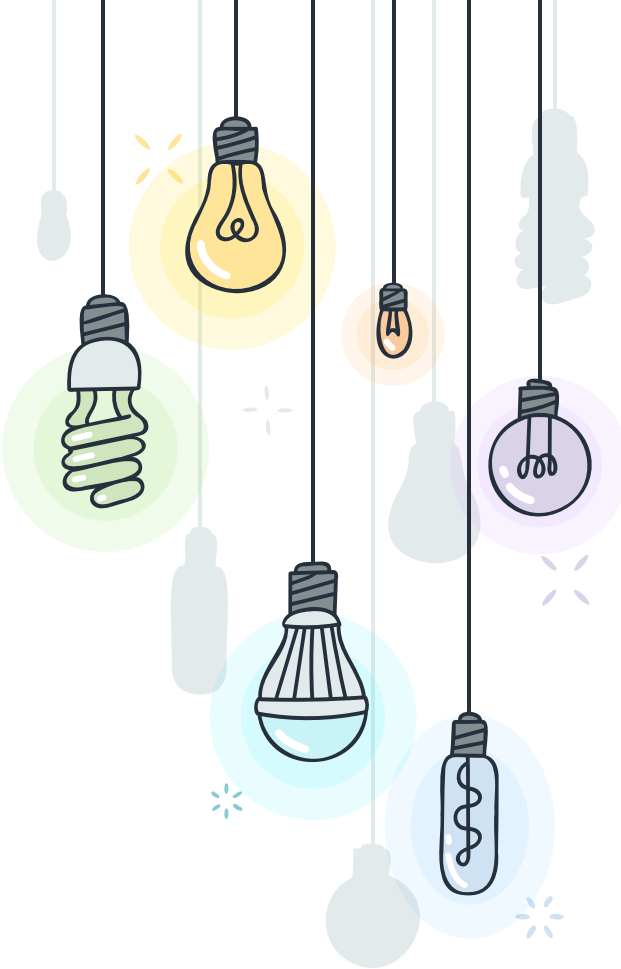
How do you feel about patriotism and how does that belief differ from those in your family?

What do you know about the contributions of black Americans to U.S. society, and where does that information come from?

Remember: there are no right or wrong answers to these questions! Answer with honesty!

Vocabulary Terms

- Abolitionist
- Apartheid
- American Revolution
- Civil Rights Act
- Crispus Attucks
- Declaration of Independence
- Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965
- Mason-Dixon Line
- NAACP
- Reconstruction
- Redlined
- Sharecropper
- Jim Crow



Hello!

I am Nikole Hannah-Jones, creator of this project and author of the first piece you'll read in it!

Maximize the video to watch an interview I did about the project!

Individual Reading time

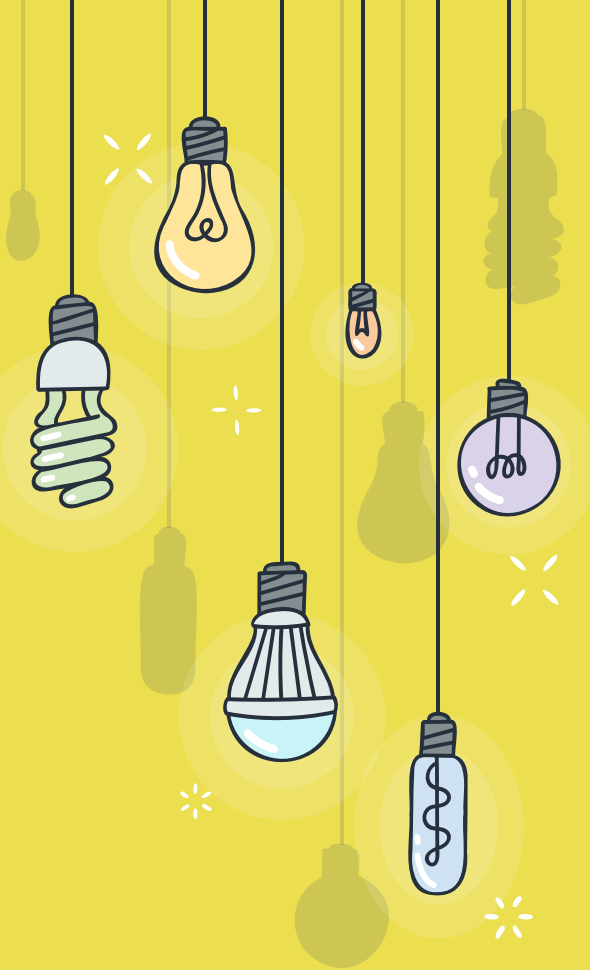
Please finish reading and annotating Nikole Hannah-Jones' article "The Idea of America". Your annotations will serve as proof of engagement at this time.

Discussion & Comprehension Questions

How did you first learn about the history of slavery in the U.S.? What did you learn, and how was that information presented?

What do you see as the lasting legacy of slavery in the U.S.?

What do you know about the contributions of black Americans to U.S. society, and where does that information come from?



Discussion & Comprehension Questions

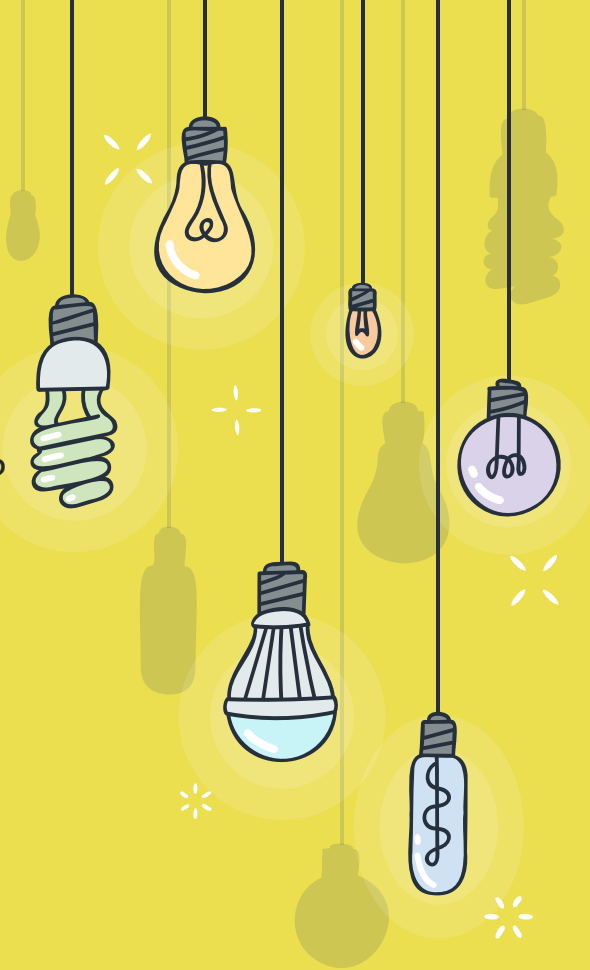
Referring to the text of the Declaration of Independence, answer the following questions:

What are the values stated in the Declaration of Independence?

In what ways can you see those values working in contemporary American life? In what ways can you see them failing?

How has the interpretation of those values changed over time? Who is responsible for creating those changes?

Make an educated guess. What is redlining? After answering this question, google ‘redlining in Kansas City’ and read for ten minutes.



Discussion & Comprehension Questions

Why would Nikole Hannah Jones, the author, be embarrassed by her father's patriotism?

If you had to describe a single instance, what would you consider to be the 'beginning' of African-American History?

What is the Middle Passage and how many people were involved in it?

What happens when a building is built on an unreliable foundation? How would you describe America's foundation?

Thomas Jefferson owned slaves when he wrote the Declaration of Independence. How does his reality correlate with the words he wrote in that document?

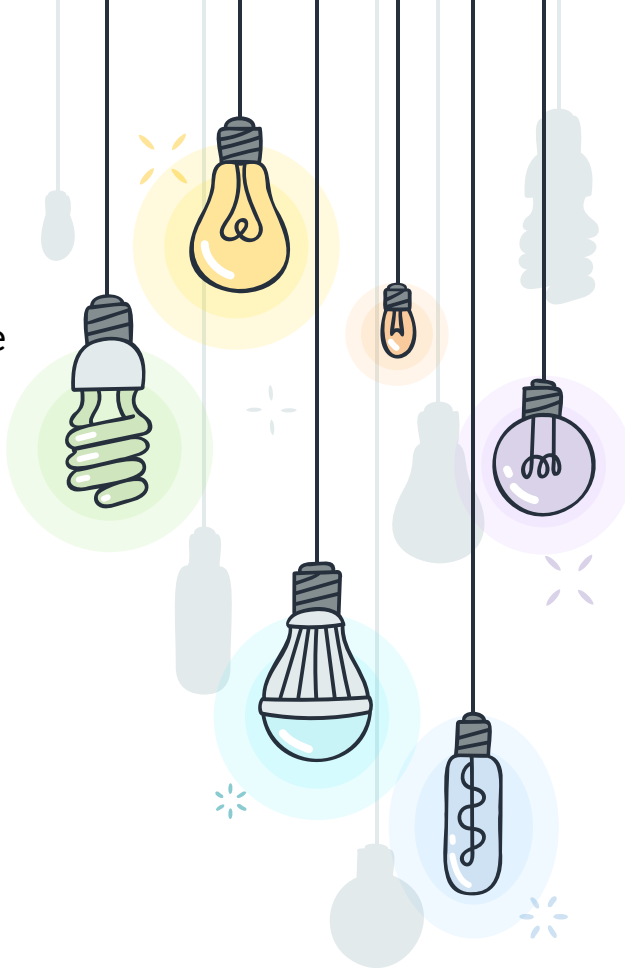
Click here to listen to Episode 1 of the 1619 Podcast

Weekly Debrief & Takeaway

You may be a little overwhelmed at the end of the first section. You have been introduced to intricate systems and challenging theories. One way to deal with being overwhelmed in this way is to document your thoughts.

For this week's takeaway, you will take a reflective look at your personal education journey and how it has helped or hindered your individual growth. As you write, consider the following questions:

Do you feel empowered after learning African-American history in school?

Do you have pride in your personal history and heritage?

Do you have an opinion on racism in America?