

## STEAMS Civil Rights Act of 1964 Project-Based Lesson Plan

**Objective:** The objective of this interdisciplinary lesson plan is to explore the historical significance, societal impact, and ongoing relevance of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Through a STEAMS (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics, and Social Studies) approach, students will engage in activities integrating various disciplines to understand the multifaceted aspects of the Civil Rights Movement and the landmark legislation. Suitable for grades 7-12, this lesson plan encourages students to delve into the historical context, the technological advancements in activism, the engineering of social structures, the artistic representations, the mathematical analysis of data, and the broader social implications of the Civil Rights Act.

### Key Components

<b>Science (S): Social Science and Psychology of Discrimination</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ <b>Topic:</b> Examine the psychological and social science research on discrimination and its effects on individuals and communities.</li><li>❖ <b>Project:</b> Conduct a survey or experiment to investigate the impact of discrimination on mental health and social behavior. Submit findings in a scientific report, including data analysis and interpretations.</li></ul>
<b>Technology (T): Technology and the Civil Rights Movement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ <b>Topic:</b> Explore the role of technology in the Civil Rights Movement, including the use of media, communication tools, and transportation.</li><li>❖ <b>Project:</b> Create a presentation highlighting how technology (such as television, radio, and photography) was used to advance</li></ul>

	<p>the Civil Rights Movement. Analyze the impact of these technologies on public opinion and policy change.</p>
<p><b>Engineering (E): Engineering Social Change</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Topic: Study the engineering of social structures and policies that contributed to the advancement of civil rights.</li> <li>❖ Project: Design a plan for a modern social justice campaign, incorporating strategies for community organization, policy advocacy, and technological tools. Develop a website to support the campaign.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Arts (A): Artistic Representations of the Civil Rights Movement</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Topic: Investigate the role of art, music, and literature in the Civil Rights Movement and how they communicated the struggle for equality.</li> <li>❖ Project: Create an artistic project (painting, sculpture, song, or literary piece) that reflects the themes and messages of the Civil Rights Movement. Write an accompanying artist statement explaining the inspiration and significance of the work.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Math (M): Statistical Analysis of Civil Rights Data</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Topic:</b> Analyze statistical data related to the Civil Rights Movement, such as voter registration, education levels, and employment rates before and after the Civil Rights Act of 1964.</li> <li>❖ <b>Project:</b> Compile and analyze data on civil rights indicators from historical and current sources. Create graphs and charts to visualize trends and present a statistical report on the progress and ongoing challenges in civil rights.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Social Studies (SS): Historical Context and Impact of the Civil Rights Act of 1964</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Topic:</b> Explore the historical context of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, including key events, figures, and the broader social and political landscape.</li> <li>❖ <b>Project:</b> Develop a detailed timeline of the Civil Rights Movement, highlighting significant events and figures leading up to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.</li> </ul>

**Assessment Criteria**

The STEAMS Civil Rights Act of 1964 project-based lesson plan provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the legislation and its profound impact on American society. By exploring the intersection of science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics, and social studies, students gain insights into the complex factors influencing social justice movements and legislative change.

This lesson plan encourages students to engage with the material through hands-on projects, research, and creative expression, ensuring a well-rounded and immersive educational experience. Through their projects, students will develop critical thinking, analytical skills, and a deeper appreciation for the ongoing struggle for civil rights and equality.