Unit 4: We Shall Overcome

**Objective:** Students will learn how activists fought for freedom and equality during the Civil Rights Era of the 1940s-1970s.

**Essential Question:** What important events took place in North Carolina’s Civil Rights Movement?

**Activities:**

Reading and Vocabulary Sheet (15-20 mins)
   Directions: Students will read *We Shall Overcome* and then complete the vocabulary worksheet.

Freedom Word Search (15-20 mins)
   Directions: Students will look for Civil Rights terms and circle them.
We Shall Overcome

1940s-1970s

After the Civil War, whites and African Americans were separated in all public places in the South. This was called segregation. In the mid-1900s, many African Americans and their white allies fought to end segregation. They also wanted to regain voting rights for African Americans. People protested these unfair practices in many ways, including marching, refusing to spend money in certain places (boycotting), and participating in sit-ins.

The Sit-In Movement began on February 1, 1960, when four African American students from North Carolina A & T University in Greensboro went to the lunch counter at a Woolworth’s department store. They decided to sit at the whites-only lunch counter until they were served. Their brave actions inspired people, especially college students, all over the South to sit-in at their local lunch counters.

African American students and white students went to different schools, and their schools were unequal. The white schools could afford better supplies and books. Often, African American students had to use the old books and sports uniforms handed down from white schools. In 1965, Darius Swann, a professor in Charlotte, sued the school board because he wanted his son to go to an integrated school. An integrated school meant that African American and white children would go to school together. His case went all the way to the Supreme Court. The court agreed that Charlotte would integrate its schools using buses.
Vocabulary

Directions: Choose a word from the vocabulary box located to the right of the page, and then match it with the correct sentence. Write the vocabulary on the line.

1. Whites and African Americans were separated in public places in the South, which was called _________________.

2. White and African American students went to different _________________.

3. White and African American students in ________________ got to school by bus.

4. The ________________ Movement began on February 1, 1960.

5. When you stop spending money on a product to make a change it is a called a _________________.

6. _________________ wanted his son to go to a certain school in Charlotte.

7. Ending segregation is called _________________.

8. The Sit-In Movement began in _________________, NC.

   School _________________ were used to send African American and white students to school together.

Answer key on last page.
Freedom Word Search

Search for the ten words below!

nc td lg of y n w e c t
re ps jq rh ha q the v
sy r mee h c r a m at y i
jc gd et d ub th r g df
lx hd lu o o on 1 ab j q
el oo e i rr re dp t l
am s fo e h dp m de an u
e z r s rl d cn e d sp b z
m m sg f w s d n v z d v h
i n t e g r a t e o w d g l q
i e a y l d r t b m v o t e n
f j t ug t ky bx j y p u k
fa i r n e s s w w gp v l g
n n j n p u g f a n l w n t u
x q e j v e s o h y h l w p f

Word Bank

children
fairness
freedom
integrate
march
movement
protest
schools
separate
vote
Answer Key

1. Segregation
2. Schools
3. Charlotte
4. Sit-In
5. Boycott
6. Darius Swann
7. Integration
8. Greensboro
9. Buses

children
fairness
freedom
integrate
march
movement
protest
schools
separate
vote