

BLM Instructional Resources

In support of the Board of Education's resolution to promote the Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action (BLMSWA) 2025, HCPSS has created optional lessons for middle and high school classes that teachers may implement under the direction of their school-based administration. This year, the resources have been updated to include a lesson highlighting the 2025 theme of Intergenerational Resistance. This lesson focuses on the NYC School Boycott of 1964. If you want to learn more about the boycott, this [video](#) and this [primary source](#) are included in the lesson.

Middle School: In addition to the lesson that highlights this year's theme (Intergenerational Resistance), lessons explore the principles of Black Lives Matter to help students understand the [movement's guiding principles](#) and expand their understanding of Black Americans' experiences throughout history into the present day.

- Lesson One - Empathy, Loving Engagement, Restorative Justice: Students are introduced to the Guiding Principles of Black Lives Matter as well as the history of the Black Lives Matter Movement.
- Lesson Two - Diversity, Globalism: Students discuss how their diversity impacts themselves and others in a global community.
- Lesson Three - Queer Affirming, Transgender Affirming, Collective Value/Disability Justice: Students learn about Andrea Jenkins and discuss how intersectionality impacts breaking barriers.
- Lesson Four - Intergenerational, Black Families, Black Villages: Students look at how Black Americans, especially families, are represented in American media to understand why it is important for everyone to see themselves reflected diversely.
- Lesson Five - Black Women: Students explore the history of the Black Feminist Movement.

High School: In addition to the lesson that highlights this year's theme (Intergenerational Resistance), lessons highlight the principles of Black Lives Matter to help students understand the [movement's guiding principles](#) and expand their understanding of Black Americans' experiences throughout history into the present day. Additionally, high school students may elect to participate in an optional project that allows them to choose a contemporary issue, research the subject, and identify ways to take intergenerational, informed action to support a cause they find meaningful.

- Lesson One - Empathy, Loving Engagement, Restorative Justice: Students are introduced to the Guiding Principles of Black Lives Matter and asked to determine which principles resonate most with them. This lesson aims to establish a sense of open communication and respect.
- Lesson Two - Diversity, Globalism: Students dig deeper into the phrase Black Lives Matter and how Black Americans' experiences can be different from white Americans. They then learn about how the Black Lives Matter movement expanded globally.

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- Lesson Three - Queer Affirming, Transgender Affirming, Collective Value/Diversity: Students learn about the achievements and contributions of LGBTQ Black Americans and how their intersectionality impacted their achievements and goals.
- Lesson Four - Intergenerational, Black Families, Black Villages: Students learn about the impact of the criminalization of Black people and mass incarceration on Black families.
- Lesson Five - Black Women: Students learn about the specific challenges Black women face, focusing on hypervisibility and invisibility.

These lessons, vetted through the Howard County Public School System, are the only curriculum-based activities specific to BLMSWA that teachers and instructional staff can use. All of these lessons are optional for teachers to implement and will be coordinated across multiple disciplines under the guidance of school administrators.