



SLAVERY by Another Name

Getting Started Guide Slavery by Another Name Digital Storytelling

Slavery by Another Name is a documentary film based on the Pulitzer Prize–winning book by Douglas A. Blackmon. The film challenges one of our country’s most cherished assumptions: that slavery in this country ended with the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863.

The film, which was produced by Twin Cities National Productions and directed by Sam Pollard, documents how after the Civil War, repressive labor practices and laws pulled thousands of African Americans in the South back into new forms of slavery that lasted well into the twentieth century.

In efforts to expand the reach of this little-known history, a standards-based curriculum, a multimedia library, teacher training videos and other related materials were initially developed to bring this film into educational spaces. These materials are available to educators on the Slavery by Another Name website.

Now with the funding support of Open Society Campaign for Black Male Achievement, we’re continuing that work through Slavery by Another Name Digital Storytelling, a media-making curriculum aimed at African American and Latino boys, which has also been developed by our education partner, [pride collaborative](#).

This project will help to further educate African American and Latino boys and their teachers about how post-emancipation labor practices and laws effectively created new forms of slavery in the American South that persisted from 1865 until the beginning of World War II.

The project will also show how the forced labor of generations of African Americans has created long-lasting racial and economic divisions that persist to this day.

The goal is to help African American and Latino male students to connect this historic period to their present experience and present these connections. In order to do that, the project includes a media-making focus to facilitate creating audio recordings of personal narratives and engaging in meaningful civil discourse around social justice issues. The curriculum also aims to strengthen crucial “soft skills,” such as teamwork, public speaking, time management, communication, self-confidence and critical thinking, which are key to post-high school success.

TIPS FOR USING SLAVERY BY ANOTHER NAME DIGITAL STORYTELLING

- Although it's not necessary to watch the full documentary in order to teach this history in the classroom, we do recommend that educators view the film prior to introducing the history of forced labor into classrooms. The documentary provides rich context for how this little-known history is connected to America's more familiar history. The film can be viewed in its entirety on the Slavery by Another Name website: <http://www.pbs.org/tpt/slavery-by-another-name/watch/>
- Before teaching Slavery by Another Name Digital Storytelling, we encourage educators to screen for students the eighteen-minute film excerpt that's included on the curriculum homepage. This excerpt provides a strong overview of the history of forced labor that will serve as a foundation for students.
- As an educator resource, we have provided a History Background. We encourage you to review this primer. You can find this resource on the curriculum homepage.
- In order to create a safe space to teach this sensitive history, we've also developed "Ten Tips for Facilitating Classroom Discussions on Sensitive Topics" as part of the teacher resources. We encourage you to read these tips prior to introducing the history in your class. You can find this resource on the curriculum homepage.
- The five activity guides included with this curriculum are just that, guides. We encourage you to customize the material to your students.
- Each guide contains multimedia clips. These clips vary — some are sections from the film, some are clips that feature prominent historians and thinkers discussing relevant themes, and others are rich oral histories. These clips serve as powerful teaching tools in addition to strong foundational backgrounds. (Prior to showing any of the clips in your classroom, we recommend that you view them to ensure that they are suitable for your students.)
- Reflecting the increased use of technology in the classroom, and the media-making aim of the curriculum, the activity guides include a number of activities that utilize technology, but adjust as you deem fit. A number of activities call for the use of mobile devices. We recommend the use of students' smartphones. However, if this isn't possible, tablets and iPods will work well. Additionally, you can use just one device; students can take turns recording their media.

- The curriculum is built around the idea of maintaining a class blog showcasing students' contributions. We encourage using a blog service like Tumblr (<http://www.tumblr.com>), which provides the ability to maintain private blogs (if you choose), as well as posts by multiple contributors. Here's a resource that explains getting started with Tumblr: <http://mashable.com/2012/06/03/the-beginners-guide-to-tumblr/>. Once you've setup the blog, students will need to register for a Tumblr account in order to contribute to the group blog. Then you can invite students to join the blog from within Tumblr.

- For the capstone media-making project, we recommend using an audio recording service like Soundcloud, which is available as a web-based service where audio files can be both recorded and uploaded. It is also available as an app that can be used on mobile devices. We recommend that you use the app version of Soundcloud because the app has the capability to easily record directly from a mobile device (including smartphones and tablets). Alternative audio recording options include freeconferencecall.com, which allows you to record audio using a telephone. Then you're able to download the audio file and upload it to Soundcloud. Soundcloud also integrates with Tumblr, so that students' audio stories can also be shared on the class blog. Here are instructions for getting started with the Soundcloud app:
 - First, visit your mobile device's app store. Search for "Soundcloud." Once found, download the app. Once downloaded, you'll be prompted to create a Soundcloud account if you don't already have one. You can create one class account or have students create their own account depending on the availability of devices and your school's technology policies. If you create one class account, you can use one device for all students to record their digital stories by taking turns.
 - Once you've downloaded the Soundcloud app, locate the Record button. This may be on a menu that you access by pressing one of your mobile device's menu buttons (typically located on the bottom corners of smartphones).
 - When they are finished recording, they will be prompted to save and name their story. Once the stories are saved and uploaded to Soundcloud (you'll know they've been uploaded when they appear in your listing of "Tracks"), you can control the privacy and access settings of their stories under "Edit."
 - Have students select a photo that represents their stories to upload to Soundcloud.
 - If you're using one Soundcloud account, all students' stories will be found under this account. If students are using their own account, consider creating a group on Soundcloud where students can add their Soundcloud stories so that they will all be in one place. Students' stories can also be added to the national Slavery by Another Name group on Soundcloud:

<https://soundcloud.com/groups/slavery-by-another-name>, which will serve as a collection of digital stories by black and Latino male students across the country. This collection may also serve as inspiration for your students.

ADDITIONAL TEACHING MATERIALS

In addition to formal teaching materials, there are a number of additional “beyond broadcast” resources for teachers.

The Slavery by Another Name website (<http://www.pbs.org/sban>) includes an interactive website that features a rich variety of access points for online users to interact with and learn about this history. Its comprehensive theme gallery features more than fifty video clips that explain and discuss a number of important historical topics from Black Codes and Jim Crow, to sharecropping and FDR and the New Deal.

The website also contains an interactive timeline that spans the history of forced labor from 1860 to 1950 and an interactive map that allows visitors to research information about forced labor across the country.

Through a partnership with StoryCorps, *tpt* has captured oral histories from descendants, people whose ancestors’ lives were impacted by forced labor. These oral histories are featured on the Slavery by Another Name website.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

To learn more about the film, visit <http://www.pbs.org/tpt/slavery-by-another-name/about/>.

To watch *Slavery by Another Name* online in its entirety, visit <http://www.pbs.org/tpt/slavery-by-another-name/watch/>.

To explore an interactive timeline and map of slavery in America from 1860-1950, visit <http://www.pbs.org/tpt/slavery-by-another-name/slavery-timeline/>.

To learn more about the history presented in *Slavery by Another Name*, visit the Theme Gallery at <http://www.pbs.org/tpt/slavery-by-another-name/themes/>.

To view historical documents from the time period that you can use in your classroom, visit <http://www.pbs.org/tpt/slavery-by-another-name/themes/historic-documents/>.

To view a slideshow of images from the time period, visit <http://www.pbs.org/tpt/slavery-by-another-name/themes/slideshow/>.

For additional resources about this history, visit <http://www.pbs.org/tpt/slavery-by-another-name/additional-resources/>.

VIDEO RESOURCES

The Bricks We Stand On

<http://www.pbs.org/tpt/slavery-by-another-name/about/>

In this twenty-minute extra, *Slavery by Another Name* author Douglas A. Blackmon takes us to Atlanta to explore the history of the city and learn about how the project evolved. He also visits with descendants featured in the film who discuss the importance of coming to grips with challenging history.

The Making of *Slavery by Another Name*

<http://www.pbs.org/tpt/slavery-by-another-name/about/>

What goes into making a history documentary? Go behind the scenes for the making of *Slavery by Another Name*.

CREDITS

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