

Name: _____

Date: _____

Period: _____

Reconstruction Discussion/Argument

We will do an activity called “Rainbow Groups.” You will first be assigned a color. You will meet with your assigned color and answer the question you are assigned. After each group has the opportunity to answer the question, the class will regroup and each new group will have one person from each color (making a rainbow). You will share your ideas with the rest of your “rainbow” and explain how your color came to the argument that they did. In this exercise, you will learn that there are two sides to every story, and although we may not agree with the way that people once thought, it is possible to understand why they thought the way they did.

Freedman's Bureau

Red Group: How did the Freedman's Bureau help with Reconstruction in the South?

Orange Group: Why were some Southerners against the creation of the Freedman's Bureau?

Black Codes

Green Group: How did “Black Codes” help many White Southerners continue to live in the same fashion that they did previous to the Civil War?

Blue Group: How did “Black Codes” continue to restrict the lives of freedmen after the Civil War?

13th Amendment

Pink Group: How could the passage of the 13th Amendment hurt the economy in the South?

Purple Group: How does the passage of the 13th Amendment support the ideas in the Declaration of Independence?

14th Amendment

Black Group: How did granting people “citizenship” make a difference in how they were viewed by law? What rights did people gain by becoming a citizen?

Gray Group: Why would some people be against granting “citizenship” to certain people? Who would be against this Amendment?

15th Amendment

Light Green Group: Why is the right to vote so important? What does it allow people to do?

Light Blue Group: How could people stop certain people from voting? How was it legal? Who would not want freedmen to vote?

Ku Klux Klan (KKK)

Brown Group: Why did the KKK believe that they were in the right to use scare tactics to get their way?

Dark Red Group: How did the rise of the KKK bring attention to the negative things (lynchings, poll taxes, etc) that were still happening to freedmen in the south?