

**Notes for PowerPoint: The Green Book**

These notes are for use with the PowerPoint pdf titled The Green Book. These notes are just a start and teachers should feel free to do their own research, add or remove content and create a presentation that suits their needs and the needs of their students.

Slide 1

Title slide: The Green Book

Gauge interest, prior knowledge, etc. using questions

1. Have any of you ever taken a trip, vacation or visited a new place, even if it was in this town or city?
2. How did you know where you were going and what you could do when you got there?
3. What resources can you use to learn about a new place you will be visiting? (websites, guidebooks, word-of-mouth)

Slide 2

Introduce the idea of traveling across the country, the All-American Road Trip, as a phenomenon that started in the early 20th Century.

1. What could have sparked this urge to travel and see new places?
2. Why did people want to see the country?
3. How did they travel? Why were cars such a popular form of transportation?
4. Who could afford this kind of travel and why?
5. African American travelers also wanted to enjoy this quintessential American rite. What obstacles or barriers might they face? How could they overcome these?

Image: Family with Oldsmobile by Scurlock, Addison N. -

<http://sirismm.si.edu/archivcenter/scurlock/618ns0242828cp.jpg>

Slide 3

Mr. Green, a civic leader and postal worker from Harlem, saw a need and wanted to offer a solution. He started the Green Book to help African American travelers “avoid embarrassing encounters.”

The obstacles and barriers faced by African American travelers and other People of Color stem from the same place.

1. What was happening in our country at that time that would lead to these “embarrassing encounters?”
2. What led to this time in our history?

Image 1: Cover of 1956 Spring edition of the Green Book

Image 2: Mr. Green - Wikipedia-The New York Age, 23 August 1958, Saturday, page 32



Slide 4

Discuss Reconstruction and the advent of Jim Crow as a response. Help students understand that the mandates of Reconstruction (among other factors) prompted the anger of white Southerners who in turn created Jim Crow laws to circumvent the efforts to integrate people who were formerly enslaved.

1. How might white Southerners react to the mandates of Reconstruction?
2. How does white supremacy fit into this context?
3. What are some examples of Jim Crow laws you have heard of?

Defining Jim Crow

- Series of laws across the south that promoted racial separation through active and passive modes of oppression.
- Segregation in the North was not codified in the same way, but it still existed.
- Separate but Equal (*Plessy v. Ferguson*) was the goal
- Name has often been attributed to "Jump Jim Crow", a song-and-dance caricature of blacks performed by white actor Thomas D. Rice in blackface, which first surfaced in 1832 and was used to satirize Andrew Jackson's populist policies.'
- Similar to Apartheid (noun)
 - 1. (in the Republic of South Africa) a rigid former policy of segregating and economically and politically oppressing the nonwhite population.
 - 2. any system or practice that separates people according to color, ethnicity, caste, etc.
 - 1945-50; < Afrikaans, equivalent to *apart* (apart) + *-heid* (-hood)

Image: Jim Crow namesake

Examples of Jim Crow in action

Image: Ohio restaurant sign, Lancaster, Ohio. Shahn, Ben, photographer. Date Created/Published: 1938 Aug.

Image: Lewis Mountain Sign. National Park Service

<http://www.nps.gov/shen/images/20070117113507.jpg>

Slide 5

Miami is seen as a diverse city, but it has had its share of racial tension and discrimination throughout its short existence.

Examples of how Jim Crow was practiced in Miami

- Example of segregated water fountains can be seen in the Miami-Dade County Courthouse, specifically on the 6th floor. The two water fountains are accompanied by historic markers and plaques explaining the history and significance of these items.
- Ordinance 457: Enacted in 1936. more than 5,000 seasonal workers at hotels, restaurants, and nightclubs, as well as domestic servants, to register with police and to be photographed and



fingerprinted. Once registered, those workers — many of whom were black — had to carry ID cards at all times in the city.

- Life on the Beach: In this video, Dr. Marvin Dunn talks about the history of African Americans on Miami Beach during segregation. <https://vimeo.com/209749790>
- Famous performers like Ella Fitzgerald could perform on the beach, but not stay there. Image from [Miami.carpediem.cd](http://miami.carpediem.cd)
- Athletes like Floyd Patterson and Muhammed Ali spoke out against segregation, especially in their audiences. Image from Miami New Times.

Slide 6

Begin activity-Plan a trip to Miami. Use this activity to connect the conversations about Jim Crow in Miami to sing the Green Book.

Open the New York Public Library page for the “Navigate using the Green Book” online application.

Review the page and your options.

Map A Trip anywhere using one and then the other available editions of the Green Book. Ask students to think about what is available to them along the route selected and how it differs over time. For long distances where few options are listed in the book, how would you go about finding safe lodging and accommodations?

You can choose to use the *View Map* option and analyze different ways of visualizing the data from the Green Book. What are the pros and cons of each visualization (Cluster view v. Heatmap view)? What other kinds of data could you visualize in this way?

Slide 7

Start a conversation about why people travel in the first place. What draws visitors to South Florida? Considering that Jim Crow laws were in effect in South Florida into the late 60’s, what forms of entertainment and amusement could African Americans and other People of Color enjoy?

Slide 8

Introduce Virginia Key Beach using some basic facts.

Based on your needs, interests and research, what conversations can you ask your students to have about this historic park? Are there research projects they can do and present to their classmates about the location, history and importance of the park?

Image: Young woman with sign from [Miami.com](http://miami.com)

Slide 9

Link to video about the park. There are other videos available on the Parks official page:

<http://virginiakeybeachpark.net/>