

Ida B Wells: Lesson Plan

Topic	
<p>Ida B. Wells was born a slave on July 16, 1862, in the midst of the American Civil War. She was the daughter of James Wells and Elizabeth Warrenton, two committed political activists. Her parent's dedication to education and politics informed her own career as an educator, researcher, and journalist, who always advocated for equality and justice for African-Americans. She contributed greatly to the anti-lynching and women's rights movements.</p>	
Possible subjects/classes	Time needed
History Social Studies Civics Politics	30-45 minutes
Video link:	
Objective: <i>What will students know/be able to do at the end of class?</i>	
<p>Students will be able to...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Define who Ida B. Wells was.• Identify the different ways in which Ida B. Wells contributed to social justice movements.• Explain the legacy of Ida B. Wells.	
Key Concepts & Vocabulary	
Lynching, Jim Crow laws.	
Materials Needed	
Worksheet, Internet access.	
Before you watch	

Discussion question (as a class): In which ways did Women of Color support anti-lynching, the abolition of slavery, and women's suffrage in the United States? Who were some of these women?

While you watch

Answer questions 1-3 in the worksheet.

After you watch/discussion questions

1. How are the causes of women's suffrage and anti-racism connected to current political struggles in the United States?
2. Why do you think that Ida B. Wells was considered a radical figure? Would she be considered radical nowadays?
3. What do you think should have been the justice system's response to the lynchings?

Activity Ideas

1. Based on what you know about Ida B. Wells, imagine she is a journalist today. What kinds of topics would she write about? Choose a current event or issue and explain what you think Ida's stance would be. Then, write your own article defending your stance on the issue. Resources and assignment print outs are available [here](#). If you email student articles to team@united4sc.org we will publish them on students4sc.org.
2. Complete the worksheet and share answers.

Sources/places to learn more

1. Ida B. Wells. January 16, 2020. Retrieved from <https://www.biography.com/activist/ida-b-wells>
2. Silkey, Sarah L. Black Woman Reformer: Ida B. Wells, Lynching, & Transatlantic Activism. Athens, GA: U of Georgia, 2015. Print.
3. Davis, Angela Y. Women, Race, & Class. , 1981. Print.