

FOR ALL THE WORLD TO SEE

Visual Culture and the Struggle for Civil Rights


Portable Art Fan Activity: Creating Objects that Fight Prejudice: Learning Activity For Grades 1-4


During the civil rights movement, people used portable art to express their beliefs and opinions. They wore buttons decorated with slogans or pictures of civil rights leaders. They carried key chains, pamphlets, and fans with pictures or slogans relating to civil rights.

They did this to show that they thought equality for all people was important. Students will study portable art from the exhibition or website and then create and decorate their own fan.


About this Guide

This guide is an accompaniment to the online exhibition, For All the World to See: Visual Culture and the Struggle for Civil Rights:

**FOR ALL THE WORLD TO SEE**

VISUAL CULTURE
AND THE
STRUGGLE FOR
CIVIL RIGHTS

ONLINE EXHIBITION	THE BOOK	ONLINE FILM FESTIVAL	NEWS + EVENTS	EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES CREDITS
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For All the World to See: Visual Culture and the Struggle for Civil Rights is organized by the Center for Art, Design and Visual Culture, University of Maryland, Baltimore County in partnership with the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture. Through a host of media—including photographs, television and film, magazines, newspapers, posters, books, and pamphlets—the project explores the historic role of visual culture in shaping, influencing, and transforming the fight for racial equality and justice in the United States from the late-1940s to the mid-1970s. For All The World To See includes a traveling exhibition, a website, online film festival, and a richly illustrated companion book.

<http://www.foralltheworldtosee.org>

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

After completing this activity, students will:

- Define prejudice and explain what it means to them.
- Discuss ways that people can overcome their prejudices.
- Demonstrate and express her or his new awareness through art.

SUBJECTS:

Social Studies; Reading & Language Arts; The Arts

RELATED RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS

Berger, Maurice. *For All the World to See: Visual Culture and the Struggle for Civil Rights* (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2010)

<http://www.umbc.edu/cadvc/foralltheworld/book/>

Online Film Festival

For All The World To See: Film and the Struggle for Civil Rights

<http://www.umbc.edu/cadvc/foralltheworld/film/index.php>

MATERIALS:

- Tongue depressors or Popsicle sticks—one for each student
- Construction paper—two for each student
- Crayons, colored pencils or markers
- Glue sticks
- Fan template (see below)

DISCUSSION:

As a way of stimulating discussion, invite children to define any of the following:

Prejudice Equality Freedom

During the civil rights movement, many people fought against prejudice. They wrote songs and speeches about prejudice. They published books and newspapers to fight against prejudice. They published booklets, buttons, fans—and other small objects to be worn or carried—bearing pictures or slogans to show that they believed in equality. They did this to show that they thought equality for all people was important.

What are ways that we can fight against prejudice?

As children respond, create a web on a dry erase board to document their ideas.

VISITING THE EXHIBITION

As a group, visit *For All the World to See: Visual Culture and the Struggle for Civil Rights* online or in one of its venues around the United States.

Some of the images in *For All the World to See* are graphic in nature. They are included because of the vital role they played in the modern civil rights movement.

As a class, study the following images:

Fan, Evans Memorial Chapel, Saginaw, Michigan, c. 1968

ACTIVITY

Review the web ideas you created in the pre-visit discussion. Show students the fan and pins again, or have them select their favorite images from the exhibition. Then:

Trace the template onto each piece of construction paper.

Cut along the trace line.

Decorate the construction paper with words or pictures from the web of ideas and the exhibition.

Glue each side of the fan together, placing the tongue depressors in the middle.

Allow the fan to dry.









For All The World To See was organized by the Center for Art, Design and Visual Culture, University of Maryland, Baltimore County in partnership with the National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution.



This project has been funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities, Trellis Fund, National Endowment for the Arts, St. Paul Travelers Corporation, Communities Foundation of Texas, and Maryland State Arts Council. Additional support has come from CBS News Archives, Ed Sullivan/SOFA Entertainment, Sullmark Corporation, and Sony Pictures Entertainment.



For All the World to See was designated a "We the People" project by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The goal of the "We the People" initiative is to "encourage and strengthen the teaching, study, and understanding of American history and culture through the support of projects that explore significant events and themes in our nation's history and culture and that advance knowledge of the principles that define America."



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