

Activity Title *	Voting Rights for African-Americans
Author *	Whitney Pruitt
School *	Pelham Oaks Elementary
School System *	Pelham City Schools
Online Resource Title *	1903 Poll Tax Record for Lowndes County
Online Resource URL *	http://digital.archives.alabama.gov/cdm/singleitem/collection/voices/id/2095/rec/2
Online Resource Description *	This is a record of poll taxes collected for a 1903 election in Lowndes County. Name and race of the men attempting to vote are recorded, and a check mark is placed next to each name that paid the required \$1.50. Of 34 men listed, 31 were white, 3 listed as "colored". The record indicates that none of the African-Americans paid the poll tax. One white man was listed as not paying.
Content Standard *	SS 4.10
Description *	Analyze social and educational changes during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century for their impact on Alabama. *Explain Jim Crow laws
Content Standard	RI 4.1
Description	Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
Content Standard	
Description	
Phase *	Opening
Activity Description *	Open by reading the children's book "Lillian's Right to Vote." Then break students up into groups and have them analyze the poll tax record from 1903. Give students an opportunity to infer meaning from names/races/poll taxes collected and discuss the impact this could have on an election and life as an African-American in Alabama.
Bloom's Taxonomy *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding • Applying • Analyzing • Evaluating
Assessment Strategies *	Have students work in pairs to write a persuasive letter to then Governor William D. Jelks listing reasons that poll taxes should be banned. Have them brainstorm fair practices that could be used to identify potential voters for elections.
Advanced Preparation *	Per each student group: one copy of poll tax records, paper/pencil to write letters to Governor Jelks

**Students should have prior knowledge of the effect of Jim Crow laws in Alabama to get the full impact of the book and voter record.

Variation Tips (Optional)

Notes/Recommendations
(Optional)

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