

# Year 8 Knowledge Organiser: Autumn 2 The civil rights movement



Summary of the Unit: This unit picks up from the abolition of slavery from the end of the previous unit. Students are able to understand why there was racial tension in America and how this tension led to the civil rights movement. Sensitive sources are shared with pupils to gain an insight of what life was like living in America during this time period.



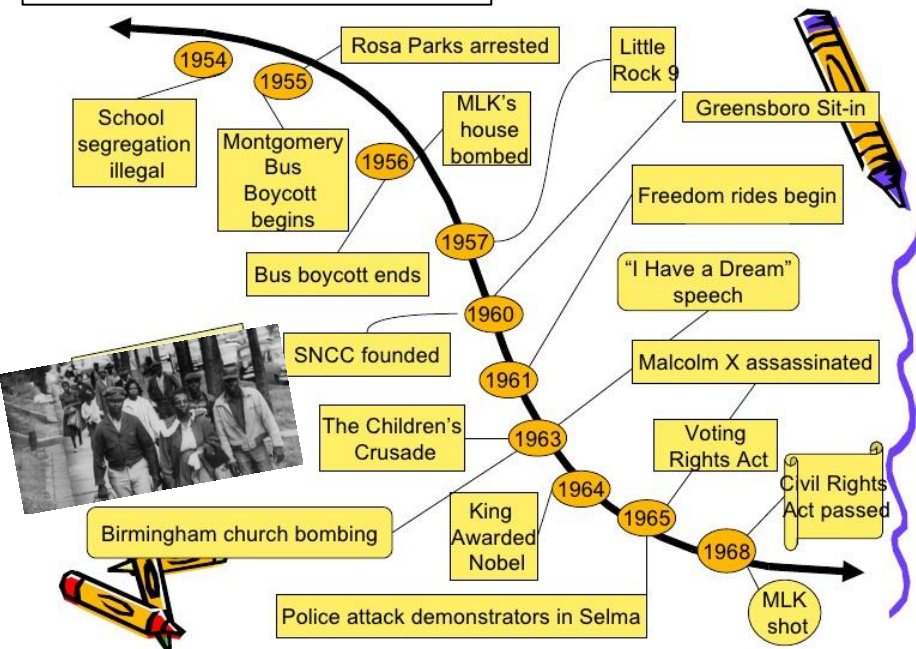
## What was the civil rights movement?

The civil rights movement was a struggle by African Americans in the mid-1950s to late 1960s to achieve Civil Rights equal to those of whites, including equal opportunity in employment, housing, and education, as well as the right to vote, the right of equal access to public facilities, and the right to be free of racial discrimination.



### Key Words

segregation	The separation of black and white people in transport, education, housing and facilities.
Jim Crow	A set of laws that made segregation a legal requirement.
lynching	The mob killing of a person outside of the law, but often overlooked by the authorities.
discrimination	Treating one group more unfairly than another.
NAACP	The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
integration	The opposite of segregation; combining different groups of people fairly.



### What?

- The Jim Crow laws were laws in the South that were based on race.
- They enforced segregation between white and black people.
- These laws outlined segregation in public places, schools, housing and jobs.
- They made it difficult for African Americans to vote and effectively kept the black population inferior to the white population.

### When?

- The Jim Crow laws started after the American Civil War.
- Most of the laws were put in place in the late 1800s and early 1900s.
- Many of these laws were still in place until the Civil Rights Acts of 1964.

### Why?

- The name 'Jim Crow' comes from an African American character in a song from 1832.
- After the song came out the term 'Jim Crow' was used to describe African American people.
- These laws were intended to restrict social contact between whites and other groups and to limit the freedom and opportunity of people of colour.

### How

- The Jim Crow laws varied from place to place across America and were predominantly in the South.
- States could create and enforce their own laws regarding African Americans within the title of 'Jim Crow'.
- In communities across America, property owners signed agreements called restrictive covenants. These contracts barred African Americans and sometimes other groups from many neighbourhoods.

