

BECAUSE
OF THEM
WE CAN

BOX

JUST FOR KIDS

BECAUSE OF FANNIE LOU HAMER

AGES 5-8



BOTWC MINI POSING AS
FANNIE LOU HAMER


NOBODY'S FREE
UNTIL
EVERYBODY'S FREE
FANNIE LOU HAMER

FANNIE LOU HAMER'S FIGHT!

Fannie Lou Hamer was a powerful voice in the Civil Rights Movement for her work. She helped Black people to be able to vote and fought for their right to vote. Read the poem below to learn more about Fannie Lou Hamer. (You may choose to record yourself saying or singing this the poem on your tape recorder!)



NEVER FORGET
WHERE WE CAME FROM AND
ALWAYS PRAISE THE BRIDGES
THAT CARRIED US OVER.

FANNIE LOU HAMER

Fannie Lou Hamer was born in the Mississippi Delta
When she was young she worked on the cottonfield
She wanted things to change for the better
She loved the Black community and wanted to help it build.

She had a powerful voice
And she used it to speak out.
She fought to give Black voting rights.
And stop some of the race issues in the South.

There were things like **literacy tests**.
Given to stop Blacks from using their voice.
She had to take it three times just to pass herself.
But she did it to show Black people had a choice.

We could choose to fight.
Choose to plan.
Choose to run for office.
Choose to take a stand.

She did all those things and more.
A powerful voice indeed.
She did all those things and more.
What a woman to have lead.



READ & RESPOND



1. As a child, where did Fannie Lou Hamer work?

2. What was Fannie Lou Hamer fighting for?

3. What problems did she face?

THE POWER OF '64

1964 was a very important year for Fannie Lou Hamer. However, there were a lot of very powerful events that happened in 1964 that changed the lives of African Americans.

Look at the timeline below. Once you have learned about some important events you will draw your own picture of one of the events. Then you will explain what you included in your drawing and why!

Event #1: April 1964

You have probably heard about Democrats and Republicans. Those are called a **political party**. Fannie Lou Hamer helped to create her own political party. It was called the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party and it was different because people of different races were a part of it.



Event #2: August 1964

Fannie Lou Hamer delivered a powerful speech about the problems she faced while trying to register to vote. She and others had been beaten and she also was fired from her job because of it.



Event #3: Summer 1964

The Mississippi Summer Project was started to help get Black people to register to vote. Fannie Lou Hamer and other members helped people to get registered and educated them about the importance of voting.



Event #4: November 1964

Fannie Lou Hamer tried to get elected so that she could help make change for Black people. She knew that it would be hard to win but she did it anyway to show other Black people that they could do it.

GLOSSARY

Literacy Test: A Reading/Writing test that was given to people that they had to pass in order to vote.

Political Party: A group of people with similar ideas who work to try and get people elected. The two major political parties in the U.S are the Democrats and Republicans.



DRAW YOUR EVENT!



Pick an event from the timeline and draw below!

Which event did you draw and why?

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line.

HARD TO VOTE

Below is an image of a voter registration card for you. To vote, you can't just show up on Election Day. You have to register first! When you register you have to fill out a form with information about you and where you live.

In the past, you also had to pass a literacy test. But, most Blacks could not read or write and had very little schooling. These literacy tests included in the application were put there on purpose to keep Blacks from being able to register to vote.

Directions: Fill out your own voter registration card. If there is something that you don't know, ask an adult supporter to help you!

VOTER REGISTRATION CARD

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First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Last Name: _____

Birthday: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

How did you feel when doing your voter registration card?

TAKE THE PLEDGE

I WILL HONOR
THE SACRIFICES OF
MY ANCESTORS.

I WILL BELIEVE
IN ME.

I WILL PURSUE
MY DREAMS.

I WILL HELP
OTHERS ALONG
THE WAY.