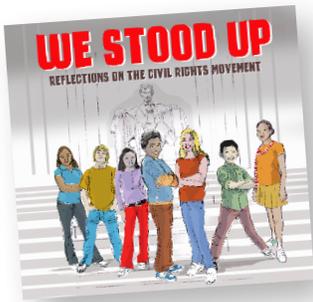


We Stood Up: Reflections on the Civil Rights Movement

An educator's guide



We Stood Up is an audio anthology of first-person oral histories featuring civil rights icons, such as John Lewis, Andrew Young and Julian Bond. This one-of-a-kind album produced by Lincoln Financial Foundation also includes poetry by Sonia Sanchez and Maya Angelou, interviews conducted by children, and original songs by Grammy-winning artists. *We Stood Up* can be downloaded and distributed for free to help educate children about the civil rights movement.

How to use *We Stood Up*

This album was designed to inspire educators with a special focus on reaching children in grades 3–8. You might simply want to play the album in its entirety and let children take away their own ideas or use it more actively by creating projects inspired by the content. *We Stood Up* can serve as inspiration for discussions or lessons revolving around the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, Black History Month, President's Day, anti-bullying efforts, school climate initiatives, social/emotional learning programs, educational technology, the arts, and much more.

A few ideas for your consideration:

In classrooms and clubs:

We Stood Up can be played for the whole class or listened to individually on headphones to spur reflection and meaningful work. Listen to each track and align the stories or songs with writing assignments or relevant literature reviews, or to spur discussions among your students. Consider how *We Stood Up* can help build skills like creativity, collaboration, communication, critical thinking and empathy. Apply the material to efforts in media literacy, music, visual arts, dance, guidance counseling, reading, social studies, diversity and language clubs, and independent work.

In school-wide programs:

Assemblies and other collective gatherings are often meant to inspire students to dream big. Smaller groups can use material from the album to prepare a performance for a larger audience in the genre of their choice (e.g., spoken word, rap, dramatic reenactment, speeches), or use the information during morning announcements, in newsletters or on bulletin boards.

At home and outside school:

With the vast selection of songs and compelling stories, parents may want to not only play *We Stood Up* for enjoyment, but also as a conversation starter for discussions with their children especially during car rides. Religious classes across faiths can organize civil and human rights studies using this material as well as use the songs for choir performances.

Conversation starters

Consider the following questions to help kick-off your discussions and projects.

- What is a civil right?
- What historic moments have you lived through? How might you stand up for freedom, opportunity and equality?
- What does the “American dream” mean to you? How is this similar/different from Dr. King’s dream?
- What does “no more us and them” look like? How can you take steps to break barriers?
- What does it mean to have a “moral obligation to speak out”? How might you begin?
- What’s your favorite part of *We Stood Up*? Is there a particular story or song that stands out to you?

To download *We Stood Up* and access additional lesson plans and resources for educators, visit www.LincolnFinancial.com/songsandstories.

We want to hear from you! We hope this album inspires creativity and engagement among your students all year long. Do you have additional suggestions about how to incorporate these stories in lesson plans and other educational programs? Share your suggestions with us at Rebecca.Poser@LFG.com.

About Lincoln Financial Foundation

Lincoln Financial Foundation, established in 1962, is a nonprofit organization formed and supported by Lincoln Financial Group. Under the Foundation guidelines, grants are made in the areas of arts, education, human services, and economic/workforce development.

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