

## 2016 AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY CALENDAR LESSON PLAN TEMPLATE

Month/Honoree(s): July/ James “JP” Neal Jr.

Lesson Title: News and its importance to the classroom

Grade Level/Course: 6-8 (can be differentiated for high school or for elementary school)

Subject: History, ELA, or Journalism

SC Academic Standards and Skills Addressed:

- Standard 8-7: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the impact on South Carolina of significant events of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries
- 8-7.4 Summarize key economic issues in present-day South Carolina, including the decline of the textile industry, the state’s continuing right-to-work status, the changes in agricultural emphasis, the growing **globalization** and foreign investment, the influx of immigrants and migrants into the Sunbelt, the increased protection of the environment, the expanding number of cultural offerings, and the changes in tax policy.
- RL.12: Analyze and critique how the author uses structures in print and multimedia texts to shape meaning and impact the reader.
- RI.7: Research events, topics, ideas, or concepts through multiple media, formats, and in visual, auditory, and kinesthetic modalities.
- 8-RI.7.1 Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums to present a particular topic or idea
- W3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective techniques, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
- 8-W.3.1 Gather ideas from texts, multimedia, and personal experience to write narratives that: a. develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences;
- C3: Communicate information through strategic use of multiple modalities, visual displays, and multimedia to enrich understanding when presenting ideas and information.

Introductory Statement/Lesson Overview: This lesson is designed to give students an overview of JP Neal’s life and the important role media plays in shaping our society. Students will produce their own news show at each level. This lesson can be modified for each grade to include information that is grade level appropriate.

Goals/Lesson Objectives: Students will understand the role of media in shaping society. Students will be able to produce their own news story. Students will be able to explain the life of JP Neal and his significance to SC.

Instructional Materials:

Computer with access to a projector or Smartboard (Teacher)

Access to computers (students)

Paper

Pencils

Pens

Lesson Progression and Time Frame:

Step 1: Introduce students to the following vocabulary words: Journalism, reporter, newscast, slander, and libel. Have students create a vocabulary foldable (have students fold their paper hotdog style. Then have students copy the words on the outside front flap. On the inside have students write the definition on the right side and a sentence using the word on the left side. Then have students cut notches in the paper that will allow them to open their word and see the definition and sentence).

Step 2: Introduce JP Neal to students. A quick biography is located at <http://www.thestate.com/living/article45101991.html>. Then show students a clip or an episode of his news program *Awareness*. Teacher, please view the episode before showing to students to ensure that content is appropriate for your age group. Episodes can be found at <http://www.wistv.com/story/76246/-awareness->. The content is owned by WIS but is free to view.

Activity 1: Have students create a newspaper front page\* based on the information provided in the film episode.

Activity 2: Have students create a Facebook page for JP Neal\*

Activity 3: Break students into groups. Have each group choose a problem currently affecting their community. Ideas can range anywhere from better school lunches to shorter class periods. Have students then create a newscast based on their chosen issue. Have student then present the newscast for the classroom and grade based on rubric. Students can also film their newscast and present it to the class if your school allows that type of activity.

Extensions/Differentiation: The content material allows this activity to be modified for upper or lower levels. High school teachers can take on more serious topics such as Civil Rights and

introduce ethics into the project. Elementary school teachers can create a newscast based on JP Neal's life.

Assessment: Asses the newscast based on the included rubric.

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