



NASHVILLE

SITES

Lesson Plan for East Nashville Tour

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Grade Level: 9-12

State Standards:

WG.53 Describe the challenges of urban areas (e.g., access to public services, affordability of housing, discrimination, gentrification, overpopulation, pollution, sprawl, transportation, zones of abandonment).

WG.14 Describe how unique weather patterns impact geography and population distribution of a region (e.g., drought, earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes).

SSP.03 Organize data from a variety of sources in order to: Compare and contrast multiple sources; Recognize differences between multiple accounts; Frame appropriate questions for further investigation.

SSP.06 Develop geographic awareness by: Determining relationships among people, resources, and ideas based on geographic location (local, national, global); Determining the use of diverse types of maps based on the purpose; Analyzing the spatial relationships between people, circumstances, and resources; Analyzing interaction between humans and the physical environment; Examining how geographic regions and perceptions of the regions change over time.

Learning Objectives:

1. Students will learn about how the East Nashville Fire of 1916 changed the communities in Nashville.
2. Students will learn about the causes and effects of gentrification and increased property prices in East Nashville.
3. Students will visit sites in East Nashville that show the city's character and tell its story.

Essential Questions:

What effects, both short and long term, have natural disasters had on East Nashville?

Why has the demographic of East Nashville shifted over the years?

How have the natural disasters led to gentrification?

What did East Nashville's education system look like before and after desegregation?

Materials:

Web and internet access (<http://nashvillesites.org>)
Smartphones for in-person walking tours
Laptop, tablet, desktop for virtual tours
Earbuds (optional)

Additional Resources:

Nashville Public Radio: The Promise
<https://www.npr.org/podcasts/578326263/the-promise>

History.com: *Brown v. Board of Education*
<https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/brown-v-board-of-education-of-topeka>

The Tennessean: East Nashville reborn after 1916's 'Fire of the Century'
<https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/2016/03/19/fire-century-ripped-through-east-nashville-1916/80573322/>

Lesson Plan:

To access the tour via Nashville Sites, go to <http://nashvillesites.org>. Scroll down and select "View All Tours." Select the tour from the alphabetized list. Read and accept the Terms of Use. Read and listen to the introduction.

Select "Take Tour" for in-person walking tour (and when prompted allow Nashville Sites to access your location to turn on GPS mapping directions). Select "Take Tour Virtually" to take a tour from home or classroom.

Before lesson planning, check out the Teacher Tips at the end of the document as you adapt the lesson and tour to best meet your class's needs.

Before Tour:

Vocabulary: suburb, Civil Rights, subdivision, congregation, gentrification, *Kelley v. Board of Education*, segregation, desegregation

People to know: Frederick Douglass, Alfred Z. Kelley

Engaging students: Listen to "The Promise," a podcast by Nashville Public Radio, and have students complete the attached worksheet.

<https://www.npr.org/podcasts/578326263/the-promise>

This will help introduce them to the racial inequalities in the East Nashville education system. The episodes are long, so depending on how much time the class has available, try to listen to at least the first or second episodes in the second season. Episode one will discuss Warner School, a stop on the tour, and episode two will discuss *Kelley v. Board of Education* and Nashville's desegregation process in schools. Once students have listened to some of the podcasts and completed the sheet, have them discuss and compare their observations in class.



S-I-T: Surprising, Interesting, Troubling

New
American
History

Print or make a digital copy of this chart to record your thoughts, ideas, and answers.

What was SURPRISING?	What was INTERESTING?	What was TROUBLING?

During Tour:

Below are possible activities your students can do after each stop. You can also choose to give these prompts to small groups of students after you have virtually or in-person done the tour.

Stop 1: First Baptist Church of East Nashville:

Watch this news clip that discusses gentrification in the neighborhood surrounding the First Baptist Church of East Nashville. <https://www.wkrn.com/news/nashville-2019/gentrification-is-having-mixed-impact-in-east-nashville-neighborhoods/>. Reflect on the church's significance to East Nashville's black population. How is gentrification disproportionately affecting the historically black East Nashville neighborhoods?

Stop 2: Meigs Middle School

Discuss this question: What struggles do you notice that East Nashville's black population faced? Make sure you think about Nashville's lack of a black highschool and the 2 year fight for Fred Douglas park.

Stop 3: Judge Miles House

This stop is Nashville's first suburb. How do these buildings compare to suburbs built recently? How do you think architecture styles have changed overtime?

Stop 4: East Park and Great Fire of 1916:

Stop and look at the map (next page) of the area burned in the Great Fire of 1916. If you are walking the tour, find where you are on that map and try to imagine the damage that would have surrounded you. If you are taking the tour virtually, look at the landmarks noted in the key that were destroyed. Reflect on the significance of this damage.



Image Courtesy of Sarah Lillard.

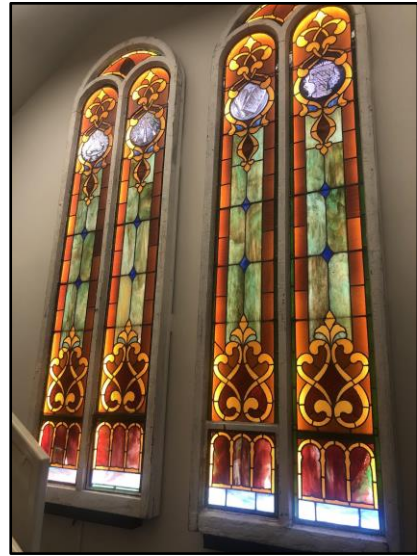


Image Courtesy of Sarah Lillard.



Image Courtesy of MHC.

Stop 9: East End Neighborhood

How does the architecture of a neighborhood reflect the events of a time period? Consider how the architecture here was varied and diverse when immigration was high. How does this neighborhood fit the pattern of gentrification following the natural disasters and influx of wealthy residents?

Stop 10: Five Point and Lockeland Springs Neighborhood

View News Channel 5 coverage of the 2020 tornado.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PuHTGUMG_IA. Take note of some of the buildings he mentions being destroyed or damaged (Music City Vintage, Drifters, BoomBozz). If you are walking the tour, walk down Woodland Ave. towards the intersection at 10th where this segment was filmed.

Look around the area, how has it recovered? If you are taking the tour virtually, discuss how you would respond to a natural disaster of this scale if you were a leader in the government. How would you support and protect the businesses that were affected?

Stop 11: Woodland Sound Studios

Why is Nashville considered "Music City?" How does Woodland Sound Studio's history reflect that nickname?

Stop 12: Nashville Public Library East Branch/ Woodland Presbyterian Church

What is the importance of libraries in communities? What services do they offer? Consider how public educational spaces affect the surrounding population.

Stop 13: East Nashville Magnet High School

Read more about *Kelly v. Board of Education* here-

<https://tennesseencyclopedia.net/entries/kelly-v-board-of-education/>. Have students discuss the process of desegregation in Nashville. What does this article reveal about Nashville's struggle with racial equality? How would you have reacted differently if you were alive during segregation?

After Tour

Evaluate:

Assessment #1 (summative): Write a short essay answering the essential questions: "What effects, both short and long term, have natural disasters had on East Nashville? Why has the demographic of East Nashville shifted over the years? How have the natural disasters led to gentrification? "

Assessment #2 (analysis): Discuss how East Nashville's African American community has been represented over time. Try to connect how natural disasters and gentrification have affected historically black neighborhoods.

Assessment #3 (persuasive): Write an essay in which you answer the question: Why is East Nashville important to the history of the greater Nashville area? What makes East Nashville unique? How does it extend the story of Nashville's history?

Optional Activities and assessments-

1. Post highlights from tour and photos to social media (tag @NashvilleSites)
2. Create a response plan for rebuilding a city that has just been destroyed by a natural disaster. Consider how you need to protect historic neighborhoods and low income communities.
3. Discuss how to preserve history that has no physical representation anymore
4. Encourage students who lived in Nashville at the time of the 2020 tornado to share their stories of what they remember.

Teacher Tips:

If you are unable to walk the tour before bringing a class or student group, here are some suggestions for you, the teacher:

1. The tour can take between an hour and an hour and a half, depending on how fast the group moves.
2. The tour requires crossing a couple busy streets, so make sure students are aware of their surroundings to ensure safety.
3. There is no specific location you need to be while hearing about the fire and tornados, so feel free to listen to those while walking to your next stop. If you want students to find some of the buildings affected by the most recent tornado in Five Points, it is ok to explore beyond the directions provided in the tour.

4. Students can cross East Park to look at Edgefield Baptist and Warner Elementary. The park is also a good place for students to take a break if needed.
5. If you are ever unsure of what street you are on or where to go next, you can look up your next landmark in the maps app on your phone.
6. Consider having a bus or ride pick up at East Nashville High so students do not have to walk back to East Park after the tour is over.
7. Below the narrative for each stop, find the option that reads "Full Record." Click on the record to gain basic information for each stop as well as a "copy citation" option for students' use in papers, essays, projects, or other assessments.
8. Consider making a small donation to NashvilleSites.org so that we can continue to create new tours and lesson plans! (Click "Donate Now" button on website.)