

LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON

A P R E S I D E N T ' S V I S I O N

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES AND ASSIGNMENT PROMPTS

POSTER PROJECT

Ask students what they would change if they could redesign the poster. Pose questions such as: What images of Johnson would you choose? What programs or legislation passed during Johnson's administration would you represent? What images or primary sources would you choose to reflect the issues?

Divide students into teams and have each team develop a new poster on Johnson to be included in the *President's Vision* series. Use the class textbook, the President's Vision website, and other reliable outside sources to find images and primary sources to create the new poster.

DEBATE

Divide the class into two groups and have opposing sides develop arguments for a debate over the following statement:

“President Johnson's vision successfully transformed the nation and addressed the country's most pressing problems.”

One side should research and argue the affirmative. The other side should research and argue the negative. In addition to the primary sources on the poster, students should use the class textbook, the *President's Vision* website, and other outside resources to prepare their arguments.

CURATING A MUSEUM EXHIBIT

Divide the class into groups of four to five students. Have each group prepare a museum exhibition using the primary sources available on the *President's Vision* website, the poster, and other online resources.

The exhibition should focus on Johnson's time in office. It should examine the ways in which his ideas and values influenced the nation's development, using selected quotes from speeches, letters, and other sources, as well as images.

Groups of students can present their exhibition as a PowerPoint presentation or as a physical exhibition. They should narrate how their exhibition's elements relate to Johnson's administration and vision.

COMPARING AND CONTRASTING WITH OTHER POSTERS IN THE SERIES

Have students compare and contrast the Johnson poster with other posters in the President's Vision series. Address these questions either in discussion or as an individual or group assignment:

- Which other presidential vision do you feel most closely aligns with Johnson's? Explain.
- Which other presidential vision do you feel is the most different from Johnson's? Explain. What factors might account for the difference?
- Looking at the images on the Johnson poster, do you find any images on other posters with similar or contrasting themes?
- Using one Johnson image of your choice, identify a similar image on a different poster. Explain what the images have in common in terms of their appearance and/or message.
- Using one Johnson image of your choice, identify a contrasting image on a different poster. Explain what differences exist in their appearance and/or message.

For related educational resources, visit www.presidentsvision.org



Humanities Texas

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ASSIGNMENT PROMPTS

- Looking back at the images and text on the Johnson poster and the additional primary source documents on this page, write a short essay explaining Johnson's presidential vision and how it sought to address the problems the nation faced when he became president.
- Using your textbook or other reliable print and online resources, find additional images of President Johnson. Compare the images you find with the images featured on the poster. What new information do these images reveal about Johnson?
- Using your textbook or other reliable print and online resources, find additional images of the civil rights movement. Compare the images you find with the image featured on the poster. What new, or different, information do these images reveal about the movement and its participants?
- Identify an issue or an event significant to Johnson's presidency that you feel should have been addressed in the poster but is not. Why should this issue or event have been included on a poster addressing Johnson's presidential vision? Use your textbook or the web as a resource to find an image that best represents this particular issue or event. Provide a brief description of the image and explain why you chose this particular image.
- As the poster's narrative suggests, the Vietnam War contributed to Johnson's unpopularity as president. Find two images that you feel best represent the war in Vietnam and two images that represent the antiwar protests that took place in the U.S. Explain why you chose these images. If these four images were also included on the poster, how might they change students' interpretation of Johnson's presidential vision?
- Using your textbook and other reliable print and online resources, identify another quotation from Johnson that you feel best represents his presidential vision. Explain your choice.
- Congress passed a large amount of legislation during Johnson's presidency. From the list on the poster, identify the two initiatives that you feel have had the greatest impact on the nation. Justify your choice.
- In the area of civil rights, how did Johnson's administration respond to calls for equality from African Americans and other groups? In what ways did his administration fall short?
- Consider that Johnson, a native Texan, went against members of his own political party when he decided to support the civil rights movement and legislation. Do you think most modern politicians would have made the same choice or do you feel Johnson had a unique perspective? Why?

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