Sit-ins and Freedom Rides

- The Civil Rights movement used the “non-violence” tactics taught by Mohandas Gandhi.
- James Farmer of CORE, and Martin Luther King of SCLC favored non violent methods of protest.
- James Lawson taught southerners nonviolence in workshops across the South.
- Students began the sit in movement at a lunch counter in Woolworths that would not serve them lunch.

Sit-in start to spread

- Soon sits-in spread to 50 southern cities- Many started by students.
- Sit-in protesters were harassed and beaten sometimes.
- But sit-ins were highly effective. Many businesses stopped segregation to avoid them.
- Soon Woolworth’s ended their segregated lunch counters.
- The leaders of the sit-ins soon formed the SNCC: Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.
Freedom Rides

- Supreme Court had ruled all bus station facilities be integrated
- But the South wasn’t doing it
- So CORE decided to test this ruling by traveling through the South by bus and it was called Freedom Rides.
- When they tried to use the facilities, they were attacked and beaten.
- The violence was so bad that CORE stopped them due to violence, but the SNCC continued knowing death may occur
- Many SNCC freedom riders were beaten and arrested.

Essential Questions

1. Where did the protesters learn their nonviolent methods from?
2. Why were sit-ins so effective?
3. Why was the SNCC started?
4. What were Freedom Rides?
5. Who continued the Freedom Rides when CORE decided to stop them?

Higher Education

- The NAACP continued with its practice of using the courts to integrate schools.
- 1961 University of Georgia forced to integrate
- 1962 James Meredith was enrolled at the University of Mississippi
- 2,500 Mississippians rioted around the University
- Kennedy had to call in troops to stop the riots.
Essential Questions
1. What organization was working the hardest to integrate schools?
2. How were the NAACP’s methods different from CORE and SCLC?
3. How did Mississippians react to James Meredith entering their school?

The Albany Movement
- Albany, Georgia became a hotspot for the civil rights movement when they refused to follow the ICC laws about integrating the bus stations
- SNCC students began to state sit-ins
- Martin Luther King was called in and led a march that got him arrested.
- But soon the SCLC and SNCC began to disagree over leadership.
- Eventually Martin Luther King walked away in defeat from the protest
- From this point on the SCLC would not aid in campaigns started by others, instead they would lead their own protests.

Birmingham
- King focused his attention on Birmingham next
- Marches and sit-in began
- Marchers and protestor were arrested
- Birmingham police chief Eugene “Bull” Conner used police and fire hoses to attack protesters.
- These scenes repeated for days on TV
- Finally Federal negotiators worked out a deal with Birmingham where they agreed to most of King’s demands
- King called it a magnificent victory.
Civil Rights Act of 1964

- Head of the **Mississippi NAACP Medgar Evers** was assassinated
- Came hours after Kennedy made a speech to enact a Civil Rights Law
- 1963, 200,000 people of all races **marched on Washington** to call for the Civil Right’s Law
- **Martin Luther King** gave his “I have a Dream Speech”
- Kennedy was assassinated, but Lyndon Johnson passed the Civil Rights Act in 1964 banning discrimination in employment and public accommodations.

**Essential Questions**

1. Why was Albany a failure for Martin Luther King?
2. Who was Eugene Bull Conner, Why did he become famous?
3. Why was Birmingham a success for King?
4. What did the Civil Rights Act of 1964 do?