

**Pullman Porters: Unsung Heroes; Former Slaves, Labor Organizers,
Middle Class Citizens & Civil Rights Activists
Grade Levels: 5-6**

Our restored 1903 wooden Pullman car, Sunbeam, provides the setting for students to discover the critical role that Pullman porters played in giving rise to America's black middle class, the formation of the black labor movement, and the momentum for the civil rights movement. This slice of history spans 100 years beginning with the Emancipation Proclamation.

Students role-play what it was like to travel and work on a Pullman car, visit the mansion where Robert Lincoln conducted Pullman business when he was in Vermont, and participate in discussions about the porters' enduring fight for social change and justice in America.

**College, Career and Civic Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies
Standards addressed:**

Fifth Grade

D2.Civ.12.3-5. Explain how rules and laws change society and how people change rules and laws.

D2.Civ.14.3-5. Illustrate historical and contemporary means of changing society.

D2.Eco.2.3-5. Identify positive and negative incentives that influence the decisions people make.

D2.His.3.3-5. Generate questions about individuals and groups who have shaped significant historical changes and continuities.

Sixth Grade

D2.Civ.2.6-8. Explain specific roles played by citizens (such as voters, jurors, taxpayers, members of the armed forces, petitioners, protestors and office-holders).

D2.Civ.6.6-8. Describe the roles of political, civil, and economic organizations in shaping people's lives.

D2.Civ.10.6-8. Explain the relevance of personal interests and perspectives, civic virtues, and democratic principles when people address issues and problems in government and civil society.



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- D2.Civ.12.6-8. Assess specific rules and laws (both actual and proposed) as means of addressing public problems.
- D2.Civ.13.6-8. Analyze the purposes, implementation and consequences of public policies in multiple settings.
- D2.Eco.1.6-8. Explain how economic decisions affect the well-being of individuals, businesses, and society.
- D2.Eco.9.6-8. Describe the role of institutions such as corporations, non-profits, and labor unions in a market economy.
- D2.His.1.6-8. Analyze connections among events and developments in broader historical contexts.
- D2.His.2.6-8. Classify series of historical events and developments as examples of change and/or continuity.
- D2.His.3.6-8. Use questions generated about individuals and groups to analyze why they, and the developments they shaped, are seen as historically significant.