

Name: _____

Date: _____

Topic: _____

Webquest on Africville - a Primary Source Study

1. Go to the Runnymede Junior and Senior PS folder on the desktop. Open it then the student share folder and then the 365 folder. You should see a web shortcut called "Search CBC Archives Africville". Double click it to reach the results page. At home, the URL for CBC's Digital Archives is:
<http://archives.cbc.ca/search?q=africville&RTy=0&RC=1&RP=1&RD=1&RA=0&th=1>
The clips are in the Society/Racism sections of the Digital Archives which can be hard to locate at times.
2. A page comes up that has CBC Digital Archives results. Choose the highlighted one: "Africville: Expropriating Nova Scotia's Blacks". Click on this, the first title in the second row of thumbnails.
6. Your topic will come up as one of the eleven boxes. "Africville's Roots" will likely begin playing automatically. Click on your topic and press the "play" arrow button to hear the actual radio broadcast of the event. There is also a brief written summary on the right hand side.
7. Listen to the recording of your topic, read the summary and write jot notes on the main ideas. Later you will use these notes to write up a newspaper article of this event in Africville's history.

The topics:

1.	Africville's roots	July 27, 1973	4:36
2.	Africville is an eyesore	June 24, 1962	9:26
3.	Racism in Halifax	June 24, 1962	2:40
4.	Africville is completely destroyed	September 15, 1967	2:00
5.	Last Service at Africville's Seaview Church	July 27, 1973	3:40
6.	Former residents are homesick	May 31, 1976	3:02
7.	Officials hail relocation	May 31, 1976	2:14
8.	20 years later	November 20, 1989	10:34
9.	Africville now	September 4 2001	0:38
10.	The ongoing battle for compensation	September 8, 2000	10:28
11.	Africville declared a national historic site	July 5, 2002	2:03

Jot notes on my Africville topic

Record your notes in the box below while listening to the broadcast.

You should attempt to organize your notes into a W5H order in the box below.

W5H Category	Notes
Who	
What	
Where	
When	
Why	
How	

Africville

Residents' Point of View

Africville, a vibrant community in the north end of Halifax, was a place where about 400 black settlers could live in privacy, free from racism and discrimination. Rich in history, many of the area's families traced their roots as far back as the 1700s. Back then, and right up until it was demolished, Africville was a tight-knit community of law-abiding, tax paying, Baptist citizens.

When the Halifax City Council decided to bulldoze the community and move the families elsewhere, the residents knew this move would not be in their best interests. Africville was their community, one where the families took care and looked over each other. One resident, Terry Dixon, explained, "There was just that sense of anywhere you go, anywhere you fall down, you hurt yourself, you don't have to go home, you go to the Dearest house, than have that taken care of."

When, in 1947, the Africville residents learned of the City council's plan to rezone their community as industrial land, and to force everyone to move out, they expressed a strong desire to remain in this place where they had strong roots. To no avail - by the 1960's the moves were well underway, and, to add insult to injury, families and their possessions were herded into garbage trucks for this removal. The city of Halifax offered the inhabitants of Africville nothing more than a symbolic lump-sum compensation for their houses. Daisy Carvery, a mother of five, was outraged:

"The meanest part that they did to Africville is, they got the old people together, because they simply knew that the older people did not have an education. What is \$500 to a 75-year old Negro? He thinks he is rich. They took our homes; they moved us out of Africville in the city's garbage trucks. We had it a lot better there (in Africville) than in some of the places they put us in the city."

Today, former Africville residents meet annually at Seaview Park to continue their efforts to keep the memory of their community alive so that their children and grandchildren will always know the story of the vibrant Africville community.

Africville

City Politicians' Point of View

Africville, a slum area in the north end of Halifax, was a place poorly suited for housing for its 400 black settlers. Back in the 1850's the city began building industrial sites on this land. Many citizens in other neighbourhoods of Halifax refused to live near these unappealing structures.

Over the years, Africville became home to a number of establishments that would not be wanted in most residential areas -- there was a prison, a city dump, an infectious disease hospital and a slaughterhouse. By the mid 1940's, Africville was seen as a real problem for the city of Halifax because this area had no water service, sewage, lights, or recreational facilities. The lack of fire and police protection led to the growth of illegal liquor establishments. By 1947, the city council had no choice but to designate Africville as industrial land.

In fact, Africville was an ideal spot for industrial uses. There was water frontage for piers making the shoreline valuable for harbour development, and there was also a railway line and a road, which led directly to the downtown area.

The mayor of Halifax at the time of the relocation, John Edward Lloyd, explained that the decision to move the community had been made for sanitary reasons and he also stressed that the move would mean an end to racial segregation in Halifax. The city council offered to relocate the residents of Africville to other parts of the city, and that by doing so, they were acting in the best interests of the residents and their children. The families would be compensated with \$500 cash - a windfall since they did not even hold any deeds to their homes. A group of "caretakers" was chosen to help the residents improve their living conditions in their new communities.

Today, the former community is part of Seaview Park and a sundial monument has been placed there to commemorate the former Africville community.

Africville

Write jot notes below on the
Residents' Point of View

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Write jot notes below on the
City Politicians' Point of View

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Africville's roots video clip

Low-Down Shame About What's Been Done to Africville

By A. Student

Africville, a vibrant community in the north end of Halifax, was a place where about 400 black settlers could live in privacy, free from racism and discrimination. Rich in history, many of the area's families traced their roots as far back as the 1700s. Back then, and right up until it was demolished, Africville was a tight-knit community of law-abiding, tax paying, Baptist citizens.

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