

Harlem Globetrotters and Early Professional Basketball

Presenter: Eric Jentsch, curator, National Museum of American History

Web Site: <http://americanhistory.si.edu/thinkfinity/podcast/globetrotters.mp3>

Teacher Guide

Listen to *Harlem Globetrotters and Early Professional Basketball* Podcast (15:39)

- Download the podcast as an MP3 (<http://americanhistory.si.edu/thinkfinity/podcast/globetrotters.mp3>)

Discussion Questions

- How did the Harlem Globetrotters promote positive change?
- What comes to mind when you think of “Harlem?” Is this the same or different from what people thought of in the 1920s and 1930s?
- What is unique about the Harlem Globetrotters?

Related Resources from the National Museum of American History

- Basketball Jersey - <http://historyexplorer.si.edu/resource/?key=3102>
- History Wired: The Harlem Globetrotters - <http://historywired.si.edu/detail.cfm?ID=161>
- Harlem Globetrotters lunchbox - <http://americanhistory.si.edu/lunchboxes/>

Related National Standards for U.S. History (National Center for History in the Schools)

- Era 7: The Emergence of Modern America (1890-1930); Standard 3: How the United States changed from the end of World War I to the eve of the Great Depression
- Era 9: Postwar United States (1945 to early 1970s); Standard 4: The struggle for racial and gender equality and the extension of civil liberties

Name:

Date:

Period:

Harlem Globetrotters and Early Professional Basketball

Presenter: Eric Jentsch, curator, National Museum of American History

Web Site: <http://americanhistory.si.edu/thinkfinity/podcast/globetrotters.mp3>

Student Worksheet

Pre-Listening vocabulary- Define these words:

Segregation

Barnstorming

Harlem Renaissance

Pre-Listening Question:

Imagine a time when playing sports was a segregated activity. How would your life be different if you grew up in the 1920s?

Listen to the podcast. Take notes and answer the questions.

What is unique about the Harlem Globetrotters?

How did the Harlem Globetrotters promote positive change?

Do you see professional basketball as a form of entertainment? How is the Harlem Globetrotters' show similar to or different from a National Basketball Association game today?