

youth
guide

SEE IT, LEARN IT, KNOW IT!

THE KINSEY COLLECTION:

*The Shared Treasures of Bernard and Shirley Kinsey —
Where Art and History Intersect*



Smithsonian
*National Museum of African American
History and Culture*



Explore the KINSEY COLLECTION on your cell phone!
Dial **202-747-3408** for information about objects
with this symbol. Get permission from an adult first!

**Look at the
image on
the front of
this guide.**

**CAN YOU FIND
IT IN THE
GALLERY?**

**USE THIS MAP
TO HELP YOU.**



The painting that you are looking at is called *The Cultivators*. Do you see the young man in the back? **That's me, Khalil!** The other people are my parents, Bernard and Shirley Kinsey.

**“We always want
to remember who
we are and where
we came from.”**

BERNARD KINSEY

Look closely. What are my parents collecting? Just like in the painting, my parents collect historical objects, like very old books. They also collect photographs, letters, and art to learn more about African American people, and their past.

Have you ever collected something? You can collect anything from seashells to stamps to baseball cards and even coins! Collecting is a great hobby because each item you collect has a story that you can share.

Use this guide to explore the stories of the people who created, used, and owned the objects. Something you see might be important to your family too. **Let's explore!**



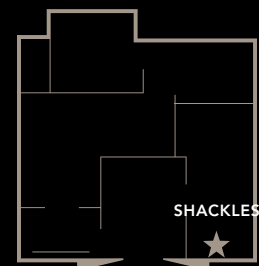
**FOLLOW MY
FOOTPRINTS
AND I WILL SHOW
YOU THE WAY.**



SLAVE SHACKLES, C. 1850

Locate this! Shackles like these were worn on the wrists of Africans during the *Middle Passage* voyage from Africa to the Americas. Africans were captured and forced onto ships and sold into slavery.

On the ship, captives were kept below the deck in dirty, overcrowded conditions. They were chained down with shackles and leg irons. The small openings of these shackles hint they were made for a female or child.



WHAT ARE THE SHACKLES MADE OF?

HOW WOULD THEY FEEL AROUND YOUR WRISTS?

HARD or SOFT
SMOOTH or ROUGH
LIGHT or HEAVY

What is the Middle Passage?

The words "Middle Passage" describe the ocean journey slave ships took. Depending on the weather, it took between six and eight weeks to cross the Atlantic Ocean.

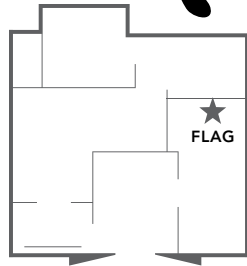
TRANSATLANTIC TRADE (17TH-19TH CENTURIES)

Imagine... if you and your family were captured and forced on a ship that was traveling to a new place far away from your home and community.

List three words to describe how that would make you feel.

- 1
- 2
- 3





PARADE FLAG, NINTH CAVALRY BUFFALO SOLDIERS, C. 1889

This is a **parade flag** for the Ninth Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers. In 1866, African American Civil War veterans fought in the Indian Wars. Despite their bravery while fighting for the United States Army, Buffalo Soldiers were treated unfairly because they were African American. The parade flag resembles the flag of the United States of America.

List two differences between the flag of the United States of America and the parade flag.

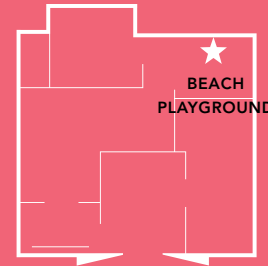
1

2

WHY DO YOU THINK
the Buffalo Soldiers designed their
parade flag to look like the U.S. flag?



To learn more about African Americans in the military, listen to stop #13 on the cell phone tour!



AMERICAN BEACH NEGRO OCEAN PLAYGROUND, C. 1930

This **Negro Ocean Playground sign** comes from an African American beach in Florida during the era of segregation. Everything from schools, pools, water fountains, buses, and restrooms were segregated. Most of the time African American facilities were not as nice as the white ones.

Imagine that you had a beach. Create a sign that invites everyone to play!

What is the era of segregation?

This was a time when whites and African Americans were forced by law to have separate public spaces.





MEMORIAL MARCH AFTER ASSASSINATION OF MLK, MAIN ST. MEMPHIS, APRIL 6, 1968
©ERNEST C. WITHERS TRUST, COURTESY DECANEAS ARCHIVE



LOOK CLOSELY AT THIS IMAGE.
Can you use the map to locate the sign shown in the photograph?

The **Honor King: End Racism! sign** was made for a protest after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis, Tennessee. At the time of his death, Dr. King was helping African American sanitation workers get better working conditions and better pay. Dr. King was a great leader that fought against segregation. Protest signs, like this one, were used during nonviolent marches. The signs helped people know about the unfair treatment of African Americans.

Imagine you were being treated unfairly. Create your protest sign in the space on the right.

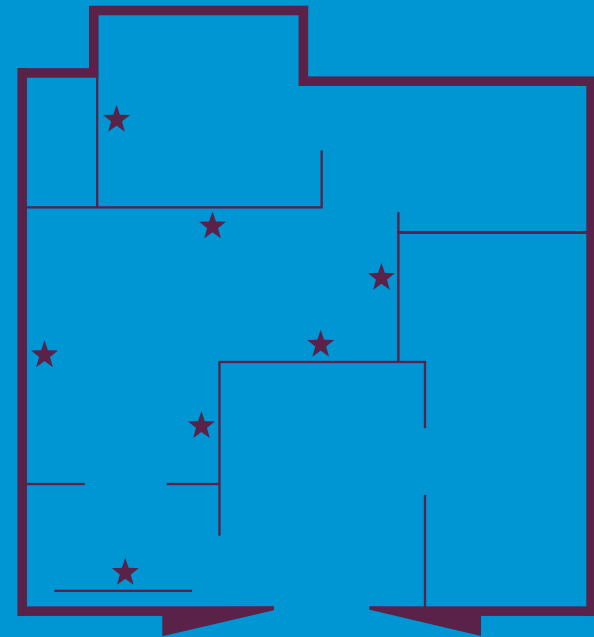
What is a protest?

A protest is when you voice your opinion against something that you don't agree with.



To learn more about nonviolent protest, listen to stop #20 on the cell phone tour!

USE THE MAP to choose a work of art from any area with a ★. Answer the following questions about it.




Our journey is almost over. **Let's go look at some art!**

What painting did you choose?

Why did you choose this painting?

How would you describe the painting to a friend?



**I hope you enjoyed learning
about some of the objects
from the Kinsey Collection.
What kinds of objects would
you like to collect?**

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**For more information on how
to begin a collection visit:
[http://www.smithsonianeducation.
org/students/idealabs/amazing_
collections.html](http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/students/idealabs/amazing_collections.html)**

ABOUT NMAAHC

Organized by the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture and the Bernard and Shirley Kinsey Foundation for the Arts and Education, *The Kinsey Collection: Shared Treasures of Bernard and Shirley Kinsey — Where Art and History Intersect* will be on view in the NMAAHC gallery at the National Museum of American History from October 15, 2010 through May 1, 2011.

Construction of the NMAAHC is scheduled to begin on the National Mall in 2012 and completed in 2015. Until then, we invite you to visit our Gallery located on the second floor of the National Museum of American History.