

PICTURE DICTIONARY



Juneteenth



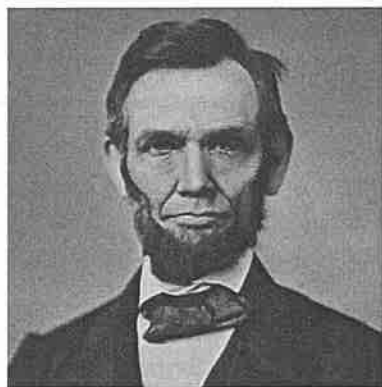
slavery



freedom



Civil War



Abraham Lincoln



Union soldier



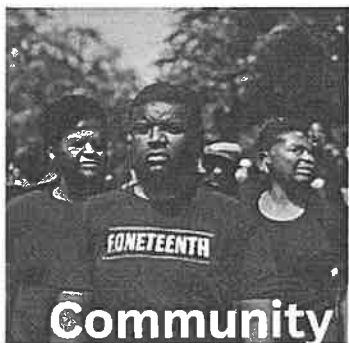
Texas



Galveston



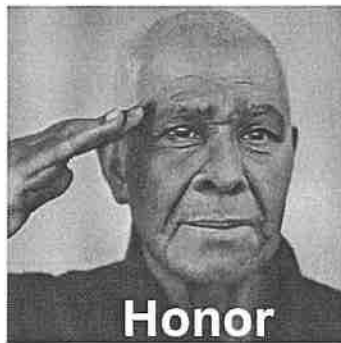
justice



Community



Celebration



Honor

Why We Celebrate Juneteenth

Juneteenth is a special holiday in the United States. It celebrates freedom and the end of slavery in America. The word “Juneteenth” comes from June 19, 1865. That is the day when many people in Texas finally learned they were free.

Let’s go back in time. For many years, millions of people were enslaved in the United States. They were taken from Africa and forced to work on farms and in homes. They had no rights. They could not go where they wanted or live free lives. It was a terrible time in American history.

In 1863, during the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This was a law that said all enslaved people in the Southern states were now free. But not everyone heard the news. There were no cell phones, no TV, and no internet. Many slave owners in the South kept the news a secret.

More than two years later, on June 19, 1865, Union soldiers arrived in Galveston, Texas. General Gordon Granger told the people that slavery had ended. That day became known as Juneteenth — the day when freedom finally reached everyone.

After that, people started to celebrate every year. Families and communities came together to remember their history. They had parades, music, food, and speeches. Juneteenth became a symbol of hope, justice, and freedom.

In 2021, Juneteenth became an official federal holiday in the United States. Now, people across the country celebrate it, not just in Texas.

Juneteenth is more than a party. It is a time to learn, to remember, and to honor those who fought for freedom. It teaches us that everyone deserves equal rights, and that we must never forget the past.

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift Every Voice and Sing

James Weldon Johnson

1871 –1938

Lift every voice and sing,
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chast'ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered.
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

Thou who hast by Thy might,
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God,
True to our native land.

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https://youtu.be/ONgOH_tq7-Q?si=CVjqL8-Rq9fcqZ-W

Juneteenth Song – Fill in the Blank

Lift every _____ and _____,
Till earth and heaven _____,
Ring with the _____ of liberty;
Let our _____ rise
High as the _____ skies,
Let it _____ loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a _____ full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a _____ full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the _____, rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us _____ on till victory is won.

Juneteenth Cloze Reading Activity

Juneteenth is a special _____ in the United States. It celebrates _____ and the end of _____ in America.

The word "Juneteenth" comes from _____ 19, 1865. That is the day when many people in _____ finally learned they were free.

In 1863, during the _____ War, President _____ signed the _____.

This was a law that said all _____ people in the Southern states were now free. But not everyone heard the news.

More than two years later, on June 19, 1865, Union _____ arrived in Galveston, _____.

General _____ told the people that slavery had ended. That day became known as Juneteenth.

After that, people started to _____ every year. They had parades, _____, food, and speeches.

In 2021, Juneteenth became an _____ holiday in the United States.

Juneteenth is a time to learn, to remember, and to _____ those who fought for _____.

It teaches us that everyone deserves _____.

Past and Future Tense – Grammar Practice

Base Verb	Past Tense	Future Tense
lift	lifted	will lift
sing	sang	will sing
ring	rang	will ring
let	let	will let
rise	rose	will rise
face	faced	will face
teach	taught	will teach
bring	brought	will bring
begin	began	will begin
win	won	will win

Verb Tense Practice – Change the Tense

Instructions: Read each sentence. Then rewrite it using the tense shown in parentheses.

1. I lift my voice every morning. → (Change to past tense)
2. They sang the national anthem. → (Change to future tense)
3. The bell rings loudly at noon. → (Change to past tense)
4. We let the children play outside. → (Change to future tense)
5. The sun rises early in the summer. → (Change to past tense)
6. I will face my fears. → (Change to past tense)
7. History teaches us many lessons. → (Change to future tense)
8. She brings food to the celebration. → (Change to past tense)
9. A new day begins with hope. → (Change to future tense)
10. They won the prize last year. → (Change to present tense)
11. We will lift our voices in the concert. → (Change to past tense)
12. He let the flag fly in the wind. → (Change to future tense)
13. The choir is singing now. → (Change to past tense)
14. We face challenges with courage. → (Change to future tense)
15. They began the ceremony at noon. → (Change to present tense)

Juneteenth Quiz – Comprehension Check

1. 1. What does Juneteenth celebrate?
 - A. Thanksgiving
 - B. Freedom from slavery
 - C. Independence from England
 - D. A war victory
2. 2. What year did President Lincoln sign the Emancipation Proclamation?
 - A. 1861
 - B. 1863
 - C. 1865
 - D. 2021
3. 3. Juneteenth happened on June 19 in what year? _____
4. 4. True or False: All enslaved people were told they were free in 1863. _____
5. 5. Where did Union soldiers tell people they were free on Juneteenth?
 - A. Georgia
 - B. Alabama
 - C. Galveston, Texas
 - D. Washington, D.C.
6. 6. Match the name to what they did:
 - A. Abraham Lincoln () Told people they were free in Texas
 - B. Gordon Granger () Signed the Emancipation Proclamation
7. 7. What does the word 'Juneteenth' combine? _____ and _____
8. 8. In what year did Juneteenth become a federal holiday?
 - A. 1865
 - B. 1965
 - C. 2005
 - D. 2021
9. 9. True or False: Juneteenth is only celebrated in Texas. _____
10. 10. What are three ways people celebrate Juneteenth today? _____, _____, _____
11. 11. What does Juneteenth teach us about rights? _____ deserve _____. _____.
12. 12. What is the name of the document that ended slavery in the Southern states?
