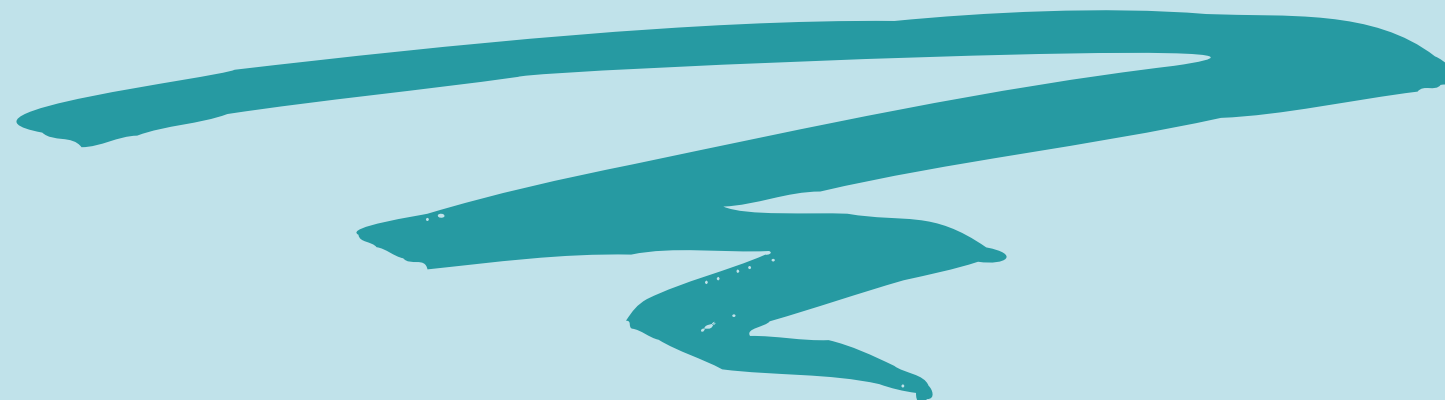




KNOW YOURSELF

FEELING FREEDOM



INTRODUCTION

Today, we will:

- * Determine the historical significance of Juneteenth
- * Evaluate poetry by Jason Reynolds exploring feelings of freedom
- * Relate Juneteenth to the five core SEL competencies



SEL CONNECTION



Today, we will practice **self-awareness** by considering our feelings around the concept of freedom.





ICEBREAKER

FREEDOM DREAMING



FREEDOM DREAMING

What does **freedom** look like to you? How is it represented in your everyday life?

Pick a single word that can be used to describe freedom. Then, move around the classroom to discover as many words as possible from classmates.





LESSON PART ONE

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH



LESSON: PART ONE



TALK ABOUT IT

JUNE
TEENTH

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

Juneteenth is a holiday that celebrates the end of the formal institution of slavery in the United States. It marks the day — June 19, 1865 — when the last enslaved people in Texas were told they were free, two years after the Emancipation Proclamation.

It's a time to honor freedom, reflect on Black history, and celebrate African American culture, strength, and joy.



LESSON: PART ONE



TALK ABOUT IT

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

One thing to note is that the African experience in America did NOT start with the enslavement of African people through the TransAtlantic slave trade.

African people were the first astrologers, masters of medicine, agriculturalists, empire builders and so much more.

Mansa Musa



Olmec Heads



Pyramids of Kemet / Egypt



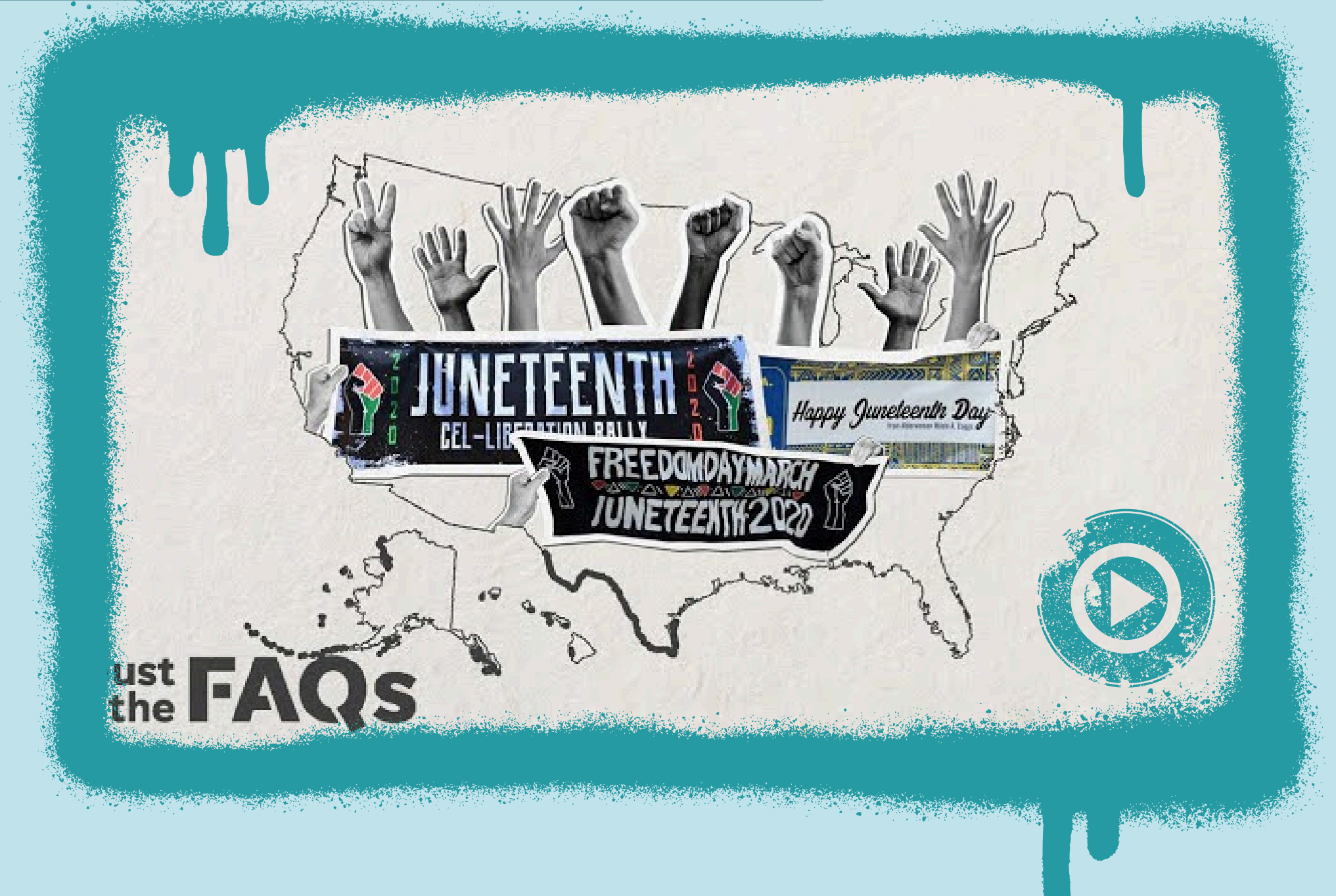
LESSON: PART ONE



WATCH A VIDEO

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

Watch this video describing the introduction of Juneteenth as a holiday.



LESSON: PART ONE



TALK ABOUT IT

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

After watching the video, discuss the following prompts in a small group:

- What is the purpose of Juneteenth?
- According to the narrator, how does Juneteenth honor emancipated African Americans?
- Based on details that you heard, what are some of the emotions associated with Juneteenth celebrations?





LESSON PART TWO

FREEDOM POETRY



LESSON: PART TWO



WATCH A VIDEO

FREEDOM POETRY

Watch “Jason Reynolds on the First Feeling of Freedom”



LESSON: PART TWO



FREEDOM POETRY

Using the graphic organizer, think about the following prompts:

- What role do the SEL competencies have in fighting for freedom?
- Which of the competencies surface in the verses of Reynolds' poem?





LESSON PART THREE

FEELING FREEDOM



LESSON: PART THREE



FEELING FREEDOM

Jason Reynolds begins his poem with the following lines:

I've often imagined that feeling / What it must have been like to get word that you / That we/ Were free.

Later in the poem, he asks, "*What did freedom feel like on the first day?*"

Write down any thoughts that come to mind when you read these lines.

Next, partner with a classmate to identify any thoughts or questions that you have about these lines and what they mean to you.

