



FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF KANSAS CITY

[WWW.KANSASCITYFED.ORG/EDUCATION/
TEACHING-ECONOMICS-WITH-BASEBALL/](http://WWW.KANSASCITYFED.ORG/EDUCATION/TEACHING-ECONOMICS-WITH-BASEBALL/)

Developed by Gigi Wolf

UNIT ONE: *BASEBALL BASICS*

MICROLESSON TWO: CONSUMERS AND PRODUCERS



Timing: 45 minutes

Description: In this microlesson, students will learn a brief history about Negro Leagues Baseball and significant contributors to the leagues. Students will distinguish consumers and producers in baseball by interpreting geographical and numerical data about the Negro Leagues and associated teams.

Grade Range:

Elementary - Middle School

Learning Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Define consumers and producers.
- Interpret data about consumers and producers.
- Solve simple mathematical problems.
- Develop and explain their own baseball team name and logo.

Key Vocabulary:

- Consumers - people who buy and/or use goods and services to satisfy their wants
- Producers - people who use resources to provide goods and services

Materials Needed:

- Visual 1: Rube Foster
- Visual 2: Negro Leagues Map
- Handout 1: Charts and Graphs
- Handout 2: Questions
- Answer Key

Introduction:

- According to the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, African-Americans began to play baseball in the late 1800s on military teams, college teams, and company teams.
- They eventually found their way to professional teams with white players.
- However, racism and laws that supported it, forced blacks to form their own teams by 1900.

- Although the players at the time were all black, white men still owned the stadiums where they played and controlled many of the teams.
- In 1920, an organized African-American league was formed under the leadership of Andrew “Rube” Foster, who was a former baseball player, manager, and owner of the Chicago American Giants.
- Rube was the son of a minister from Culvert, Texas and at the age of 22, started as a pitcher for the Chicago Union Giants. He went on to have a successful pitching career and his contributions to the game became legendary.
- Display Visual 1: Rube Foster.
- What does this picture tell us about Rube Foster? What might some of his character traits be based on this photo?
- Rube Foster wanted to force white promoters and owners out of black baseball to help motivate white major league baseball organizations to accept blacks.
- Rube and a few other Midwestern team owners met at the Paseo YMCA in Kansas City, Missouri in 1920 to form the Negro National League.
- Soon, other leagues formed in Eastern and Southern states to compete against the National League.
- The growth of negro leagues brought the game of baseball to major cities and rural areas in the U.S., Canada, and Latin America.
- Show Visual 2: Negro Leagues Map.
- From 1920 – 1955, six different African-American leagues were formed in over 30 cities across the eastern half of the United States.
- What do you notice about the cities where teams were formed?
- Why do you think some states had multiple cities involved while other states had only one?
- What part of the country would you choose to own your own team? Why?
- Each league was made up of several teams, some owned by blacks like Rube Foster and some owned by whites.
- By the 1920’s, black women were also team owners in black baseball.
- For instance, Effa Manley and her husband Abe owned the Newark Eagles and she was in charge of business affairs and marketing for the team.
- Team owners like Rube and Effa were producers.
- **Producers** are people who use resources to provide goods and services.
- What goods or services do baseball team owners provide or produce?
- Can you think of other examples of producers?
- Those who attend baseball games are considered consumers.
- **Consumers** are defined as people who buy and/or use goods and services to satisfy their wants.
- Some producers in the Negro Leagues were more successful than others because of their team’s winning records.

Activity:

- Use Visual 2: Negro Leagues Map and Handout 1: Charts and Graphs to complete Handout 2: Questions.
- Check answers using the Answer Key.

Discussion Questions:

- What goods or services do you consume most often?
- What are you a high consumer of?
- At a grocery store, what types of goods and/or services are produced?
- If consumers purchase a lot of one particular good, what might that signal to the producer of that good?
- How can producers motivate consumers to purchase their goods or services?
- As a consumer, which goods are your least favorite? Which services are your least favorite?
- What are the benefits of being a producer? What are the risks?
- Do people have to be consumers? Why or why not?
- If producers suddenly stopped providing a good or service, how might consumers respond?
- If you could be a producer of a good or a service, what would you choose and why?

Additional Resources and References:

- Negro Leagues Baseball Museum - <https://www.nlbm.com/negro-leagues-history/>
- National Baseball Hall of Fame - <https://baseballhall.org/baseball-history-american-history-and-you>

Content Standards:

Common Core Standards – Mathematics

- Counting & Cardinality: Know number names and the count sequence.
CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.K.CCA2 - Count forward beginning from a given number within the known sequence.
- Counting & Cardinality: Count to tell the number of objects.
CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.K.CC.B.4.C - Understand that each successive number name refers to a quantity that is one larger.
- Counting & Cardinality: Compare numbers.
CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.K.CC.C.6
Identify whether the number of objects in one group is greater than, less than, or equal to the number of objects in another group, e.g., by using matching and counting strategies.

- Operations & Algebraic Thinking: Understand addition as putting together and adding to, and understand subtraction as taking apart and taking from.
CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.K.OA.A.2
Solve addition and subtraction word problems, and add and subtract within 10, e.g., by using objects or drawings to represent the problem.
- Operations & Algebraic Thinking: Represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction.
CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.2.OA.A.1
Use addition and subtraction within 100 to solve one- and two-step word problems involving situations of adding to, taking from, putting together, taking apart, and comparing, with unknowns in all positions, e.g., by using drawings and equations with a symbol for the unknown number to represent the problem.
- Number & Operations in Base Ten: Understand place value.
CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.1.NBT.B.2
Understand that the two digits of a two-digit number represent amounts of tens and ones.
CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.2.NBT.A.1
Understand that the three digits of a three-digit number represent amounts of hundreds, tens, and ones.



MICROLESSON TWO – VISUAL 1: RUBE FOSTER

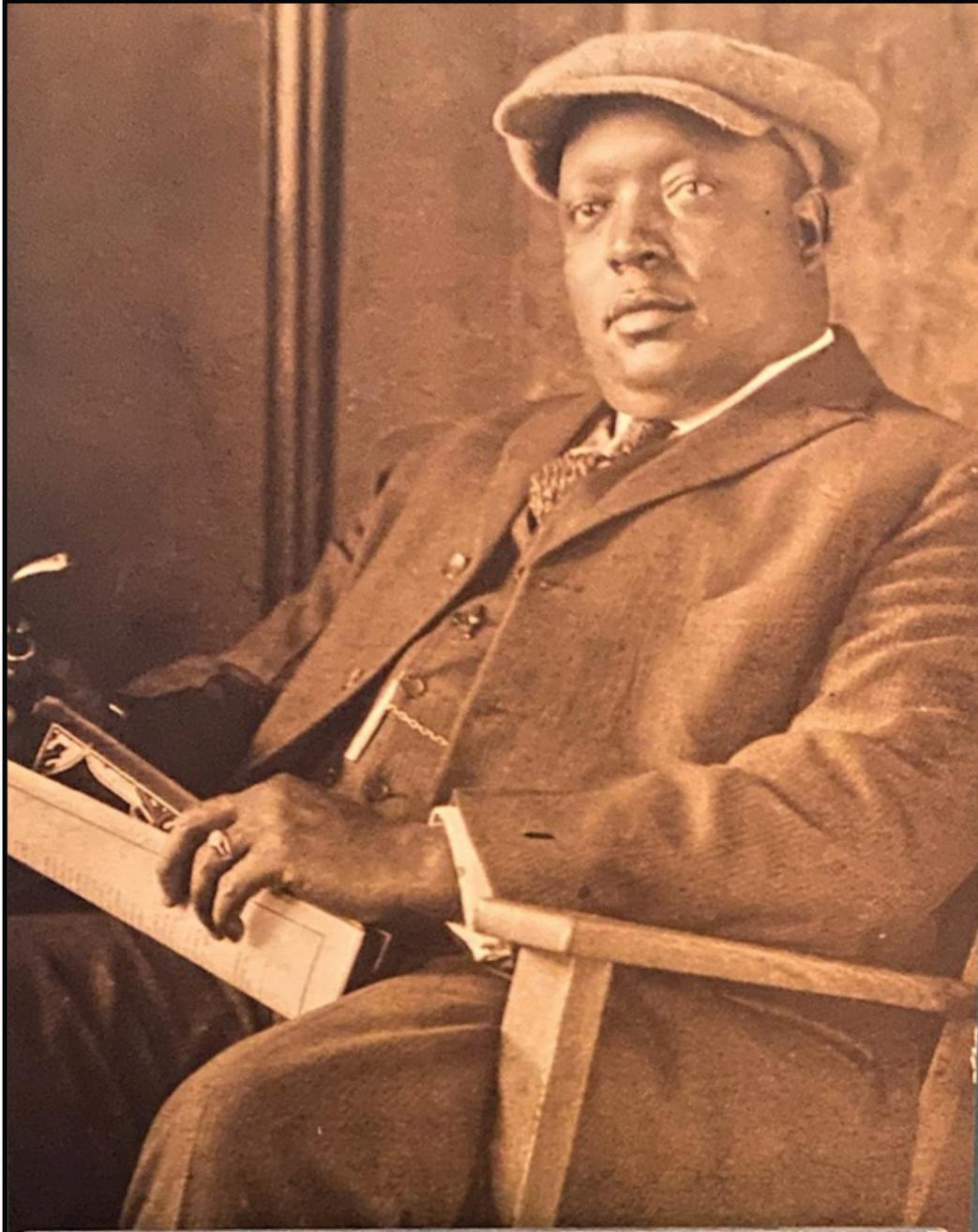


Photo: from NLBM with permission



MICROLESSON TWO – VISUAL 2: NEGRO LEAGUES MAP



Map: from NLBM with permission



MICROLESSON TWO – HANDOUT 1: CHARTS AND GRAPHS (PAGE 1 OF 2)

Image A



YEAR	EAST	WEST	ATTENDANCE
1933	7	11	20,000
1934	1	0	20,000
1935	8	11	25,000
1936	10	2	30,000
1937	7	2	20,000
1938	4	5	30,000
1939	2	4	33,489
1940	11	0	25,000
1941	8	3	50,256
1942	5	2	48,000
1943	1	2	51,723
1944	4	7	46,247
1945	6	9	37,714
1946	1	4	45,474
1947	2	5	48,112
1948	0	3	42,099
1949	4	0	31,097
1950	3	5	24,614
1951	3	1	21,312
1952	3	7	18,279
1953	1	5	7,000-10,000
1954	4	8	10,000
1955	0	2	1,000

Image B



NEGRO WORLD SERIES

1924

Kansas City, 5 - Hilldale, 4

1925

Hilldale, 5 - Kansas City, 1

1926

American Giants, 5 - Bacharach Giants, 3

1927

American Giants, 5 - Bacharach Giants, 3

1942

Kansas City, 4 - Homestead Grays, 0

1943

Homestead Grays, 4 - Birmingham Black Barons, 3

1944

Homestead Grays, 4 - Birmingham Black Barons, 1

1945

Cleveland Buckeyes, 4 - Homestead Grays, 0

1946

Newark Eagles, 4 - Kansas City, 3

1947

New York Cubans, 4 - Cleveland Buckeyes, 1

1948

Homestead Grays, 4 - Birmingham Black Barons, 1

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MICROLESSON TWO – HANDOUT 1: CHARTS AND GRAPHS (PAGE 2 OF 2)

TABLE		LEAGUES AND WINS						TOTAL TEAM WINS
STATE	TEAM	NEGRO NATIONAL	EASTERN COLORED	AMERICAN NEGRO	EAST-WEST	NEGRO SOUTHERN	NEGRO AMERICAN	
AL	Birmingham Black Barons	8		18				26
FL	Jacksonville Red Caps			3				3
GA	Atlanta Black Crackers			1		1		
IL	Chicago American Giants	16		16				32
IN	Indianapolis ABC's	10		2				
IN	Indianapolis Clowns			10				
MD	Baltimore Black Sox	2	6	1	1			10
MD	Baltimore Elite Giants	11		3				14
MI	Detroit Stars				1			1
MO	Kansas City Monarchs	11		19				30
MO	St. Louis Stars	10		2				12
NJ	Newark Eagles	13						13
NY	Brooklyn Royal Giants		5					5
NY	New York Black Yankees	12			1			13
NY	New York Cubans	12					2	
OH	Cleveland Buckeyes			7				
PA	Philadelphia Stars	16					4	20
PA	Pittsburgh Crawfords	6			1			7
TN	Memphis Red Sox	7		18		1		26
TOTAL LEAGUE WINS		134		100		2		



MICROLESSON TWO – HANDOUT 2: QUESTIONS (PAGE 1 OF 2)

1. Was Rube Foster a producer or a consumer? Why?
2. Based on the Negro Leagues Map, which state had the most Negro League team producers?
 - a. Missouri
 - b. Ohio
 - c. Pennsylvania
 - d. New York
3. According to the map, in what part of the United States did most Negro League team producers locate their teams?
 - a. North
 - b. South
 - c. East
 - d. West
4. Based on Image A, which year had the highest consumer attendance?
 - a. 1943
 - b. 1945
 - c. 1948
 - d. 1952
5. On Image A, which year would be the worst to be a team owner based on consumer attendance?
 - a. 1935
 - b. 1939
 - c. 1952
 - d. 1955
6. Based on Image B, which team would you rather be the owner of and why?
 - a. New York Cubans
 - b. Kansas City Monarchs
 - c. Birmingham Black Barons
 - d. Newark Eagles



MICROLESSON TWO – HANDOUT 2: QUESTIONS (PAGE 2 OF 2)

- 7.** On Image B, which team won a world series title, but did not lose one between 1924 - 1948?
 - a.** American Giants
 - b.** Homestead Grays
 - c.** Cleveland Buckeyes
 - d.** Hilldale

- 8.** According to Image B, which team's producer received the most world series wins?
 - a.** Cleveland Buckeyes
 - b.** Kansas City Monarchs
 - c.** New York Cubans
 - d.** Homestead Grays

- 9.** On the Table: Leagues and Wins, the last row is missing three totals and the last column on the far right is missing five totals. Add the numbers provided in the table to determine the missing totals and write them in the appropriate box highlighted on the table.

- 10.** Based on the Table: Leagues and Wins, which team won the most?
 - a.** Chicago American Giants
 - b.** Kansas City Monarchs
 - c.** New York Cubans
 - d.** Philadelphia Stars

- 11.** According to the Table: Leagues and Wins, which league had the most successful producers?
 - a.** Negro American League
 - b.** East-West League
 - c.** American Negro League
 - d.** Negro National League

- 12.** As a producer of your own baseball team, what would you name your team? On a separate sheet, design a logo for your team that includes the team name and explains why you chose that name.



MICROLESSON TWO – ANSWER KEY (PAGE 1 OF 3)

TABLE		LEAGUES AND WINS						TOTAL TEAM WINS
STATE	TEAM	NEGRO NATIONAL	EASTERN COLORED	AMERICAN NEGRO	EAST-WEST	NEGRO SOUTHERN	NEGRO AMERICAN	
AL	Birmingham Black Barons	8		18				26
FL	Jacksonville Red Caps			3				3
GA	Atlanta Black Crackers			1		1		2
IL	Chicago American Giants	16		16				32
IN	Indianapolis ABC's	10		2				12
IN	Indianapolis Clowns			10				10
MD	Baltimore Black Sox	2	6	1	1			10
MD	Baltimore Elite Giants	11		3				14
MI	Detroit Stars				1			1
MO	Kansas City Monarchs	11		19				30
MO	St. Louis Stars	10		2				12
NJ	Newark Eagles	13						13
NY	Brooklyn Royal Giants		5					5
NY	New York Black Yankees	12			1			13
NY	New York Cubans	12					2	14
OH	Cleveland Buckeyes			7				7
PA	Philadelphia Stars	16					4	20
PA	Pittsburgh Crawfords	6			1			7
TN	Memphis Red Sox	7		18		1		26
TOTAL LEAGUE WINS		134	11	100	4	2	6	



MICROLESSON TWO – ANSWER KEY (PAGE 2 OF 3)

1. Was Rube Foster a producer or a consumer? Why?
Producer, he provided the game of baseball to consumers
2. Based on the Negro Leagues Map, which state had the most Negro League team producers?
 - a. Missouri
 - b. Ohio**
 - c. Pennsylvania
 - d. New York
3. According to the map, in what part of the United States did most Negro League team producers locate their teams?
 - a. North
 - b. South
 - c. East**
 - d. West
4. Based on Image A, which year had the highest consumer attendance?
 - a. 1943**
 - b. 1945
 - c. 1948
 - d. 1952
5. On Image A, which year would be the worst to be a team owner based on consumer attendance?
 - a. 1935
 - b. 1939
 - c. 1952
 - d. 1955**
6. Based on Image B, which team would you rather be the owner of and why?
Because they won more
 - a. New York Cubans
 - b. Kansas City Monarchs**
 - c. Birmingham Black Barons
 - d. Newark Eagles



MICROLESSON TWO – ANSWER KEY (PAGE 3 OF 3)

7. On Image B, which teams won a world series title, but did not lose one between 1924 - 1948?
- American Giants**
 - Homestead Grays
 - Cleveland Buckeyes
 - Hilldale
8. According to Image B, which team's producer received the most world series wins?
- Cleveland Buckeyes
 - Kansas City Monarchs
 - New York Cubans
 - Homestead Grays**
9. On the Table: Leagues and Wins, the last row is missing three totals and the last column on the far right is missing five totals. Add the numbers provided in the table to determine the missing totals and write them in the appropriate box highlighted on the table.
- Total League Wins: 11, 4, 6; Total Team Wins: 2, 12, 10, 14, 7**
10. Based on the Table: Leagues and Wins, which team won the most?
- Chicago American Giants**
 - Kansas City Monarchs
 - New York Cubans
 - Philadelphia Stars
11. According to the Table: Leagues and Wins, which league had the most successful producers?
- Negro American League
 - East-West League
 - American Negro League
 - Negro National League**
12. As a producer of your own baseball team, what would you name your team? On a separate sheet, design a logo for your team that includes the team name and explains why you chose that name.
- Answers will vary**