

# THE GRIOT MUSEUM OF BLACK HISTORY

## HIRAM YOUNG

Focus: Analysis, Empathy, Entrepreneurship, and Work

Getting started: Does your family own a wheel barrow? Have you ever thought of why they were invented? Have you ever done a project at home or helped your dad or granddad do a project and had to move something heavy? What did you use? Owning a successful business means, in part, finding out what people need and giving it to them for a price. Think about your neighborhood. What do people really need? Hiram Young matched his skills to what people needed. Read his story and look at the images and/or gallery installation at The Griot Museum.



## CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Analysis, Mapping, and Reflection:

Step #1: As a class, make a list of all the people that Hiram Young touched in his life. You won't know the names of people, but think about those with whom he interacted from slave-owners to customers. Think of a stone thrown into water, the circular ripples that follow are the people he touched. Use concentric circles to represent the people Hiram Young touched.

Step #2: Now, think of an adult in your family who you feel reaches out to others. How many different kinds of people have they helped? Think of people at work, place of worship, and the neighborhood. Create circles for this family member or friend.

Step #3: Last, what does your list look like? How many people are in your life? How many people have you talked to today? Yesterday? How could there be more? Share your lists with your class.

Step #4: Can your life resemble Mr. Young's? What skills do you have, what things can you do, that might be of value? (Repairing, cleaning, building, delivering, caring for children) What jobs could you do or teach others? After you make your list, think about what you might envision doing a year or so from now that would utilize some of your abilities and also be helpful to others. Write a one page reflection looking back at this enterprise you designed.

MO Show-Me Standards/Goals: CA3, CA4, SS6, SS7; 1.6, 1.8, 1.9, 1.10, 2.1, 3.1, 3.3, 4.1, 4.8