

Alabama: Our Beautiful Home

A photograph of the Alabama State Capitol building in Montgomery, Alabama. The building is a grand, white, neoclassical structure with a prominent central dome and a portico supported by tall columns. A clock face is visible on the front of the dome. The building is surrounded by lush green trees and a clear blue sky with scattered white clouds. The foreground shows a wide set of steps leading up to the entrance, flanked by flower beds with pink and yellow blooms.

Chapter 16: Alabama's Sons and
Daughters

STUDY PRESENTATION



Section 1: Political Leaders, Lawmakers, and Jurists
Section 2: Businesspeople, Educators, and Scientists
Section 3: Entertainers, Sports Stars, and Writers

Section 1. Political Leaders, Lawmakers, and Jurists

- Essential Question: What has made some people from Alabama good leaders?



Section 1. Political Leaders, Lawmakers, and Jurists

- What terms do I need to know?
 - convict-leasing
 - provost
 - cabinet
 - paraplegic
 - prosecutor



Introduction

- Alabama has many men and women who are respected lawmakers, political leaders, and jurists (judges).
- They have been important to our state and nation.



Political Leaders

- James Elisha Folsom: a.k.a. “Big Jim” was elected governor twice. Known for paving rural roads, increasing the school year, and improving schools.
- Pattie Ruffner Jacobs: women’s suffrage leader and worked to end **convict-leasing**.
- Thomas Erby Kilby: Worked to pay state debts and improve schools and prisons.



Political Leaders

- Condoleezza Rice: served as national security advisor and U.S. Secretary of State.
- George C. Wallace: served as governor four times and also ran for president. He was shot and became a **paraplegic**.
- Lurleen Burns Wallace: first female governor of Alabama.



Lawmakers

- The Bankheads: three in the same family who served in Congress (John Hollis; John Hollis II; William B.).
- Tom Bevill: congressman for 30 years and led the drive to build the Tenn-Tom Waterway and I-22.
- J. Lister Hill: long-time congressman and senator, known for improving hospitals and expanding electric use, telephones, housing, and education.



Lawmakers

- John J. Sparkman: congressman who fought for the building of the Redstone Arsenal and making laws to support military service people and veterans.



Jurists

- Oscar W. Adams: first black Alabama Supreme Court justice.
- Hugo L. Black: U.S. Supreme Court justice.
- Howell T. Heflin: Alabama Supreme Court chief justice and U.S. senator known for supporting civil rights.



Section 2. Businesspeople, Educators, and Scientists

- Essential Question: How have people earned fame giving by improving the lives of others in Alabama?



Section 2. Businesspeople, Educators, and Scientists

- What terms do I need to know?
 - entrepreneur
 - profession
 - arthritis
 - sociobiology



Businesspeople

- Many Alabamians have become successful **entrepreneurs.**
- Winton "Red" Blount: built a large construction company and donated millions of dollars to charities in Alabama.
- Emory O. Cunningham: publisher of magazines and cookbooks.
- John H. "Red" Dove: built a family-owned trucking business.



Businesspeople

- Arthur G. Gaston: black man who built insurance, broadcasting, and banking businesses.
- Reverend William R. Pettiford: built largest African American-owned bank.
- Mark C. Smith: founder of technology companies.
- E. B. Stephens: founded the large EBSCO company.
- Diane Weston: her company does technology research for NASA.



Educators

- Alabama has many wonderful educators who make a difference in people's lives.
- Marva Collins: opened her own school in Chicago to help students who had trouble learning.
- Julia Strudwick Tutwiler: worked to educate women and prisoners who lacked job skills.
- Dr. George Washington Carver: did research on plants and scientific methods for farming; he became a famous teacher at the Tuskegee Institute.



Scientists

- Scientists help improve people's lives studying things like medicine, space, plants, animals, atoms, and more!
- Dr. Percy Julian: created new products from soybeans and invented a drug to treat **arthritis**.
- Dr. Robert Van de Graaff: built the world's first atom smasher.
- Dr. Edward O. Wilson: studied how ants and bees live and work together.
- Dr. Werner von Braun: helped build America's space program and supported education in his community.



Scientists

- Several astronauts have come from Alabama. They have served as mission specialists and commanders of space missions.
- Four surgeons general have been from Alabama. They have helped presidents improve the health of all Americans.



Section 3. Entertainers, Sports Stars, and Writers

- Essential Question: How has Alabama contributed to the entertainment of Americans?



Section 3. Entertainers, Sports Stars, and Writers

- What terms do I need to know?
 - record



Entertainers

- Many entertainers are from Alabama. One of the most famous is the country music group "Alabama."
- Jimmy Buffet: musician famous for his "parrothead" fans; also known for supporting the communities of the Gulf Coast.
- Nat "King" Cole: famous jazz pianist who produced many **records**.
- Taylor Hicks: famous musician and *American Idol* winner in 2006.



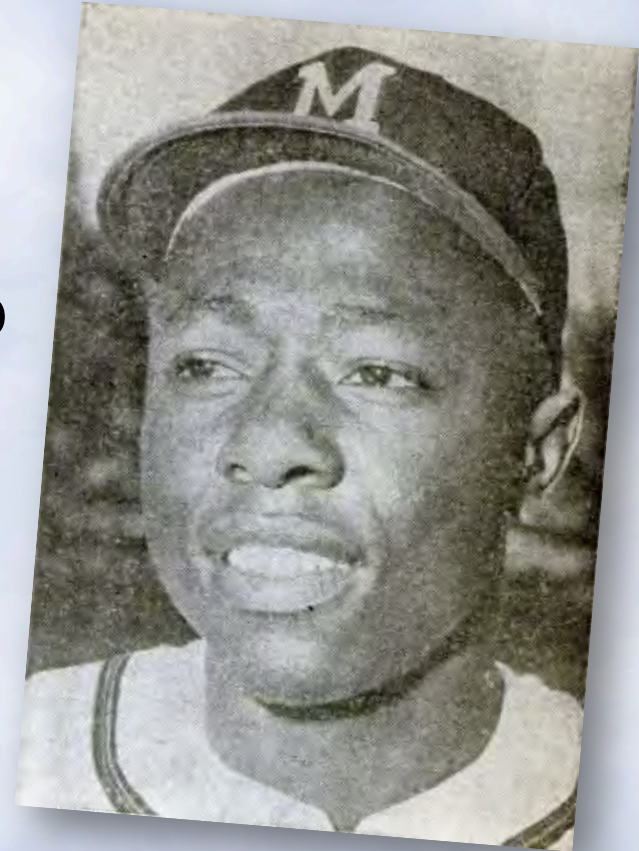
Entertainers

- Lionel Ritche: musician and singer who has won many awards.
- Ruben Studdard: singer and *American Idol* winner in 2003.
- Tammy Wynette: successful country music singer and musician.



Sports Stars

- Sports are popular in Alabama and the state has many famous athletes.
- Henry "Hank" Aaron: professional baseball player who hit 755 home runs.
- Charles Barkley: professional basketball player and Olympic gold medalist.
- Paul "Bear" Bryant: famous coach of the University of Alabama Crimson Tide football team.



Sports Stars

- Vonetta Jeffrey Flowers: first African American to win a gold medal at a Winter Olympics.
- Mia Hamm: star soccer player and Olympic medalist.
- Bo Jackson: has played professional basketball and football.
- Joe Lewis: world boxing champion.
- Willie Mays: record-setting professional baseball player.



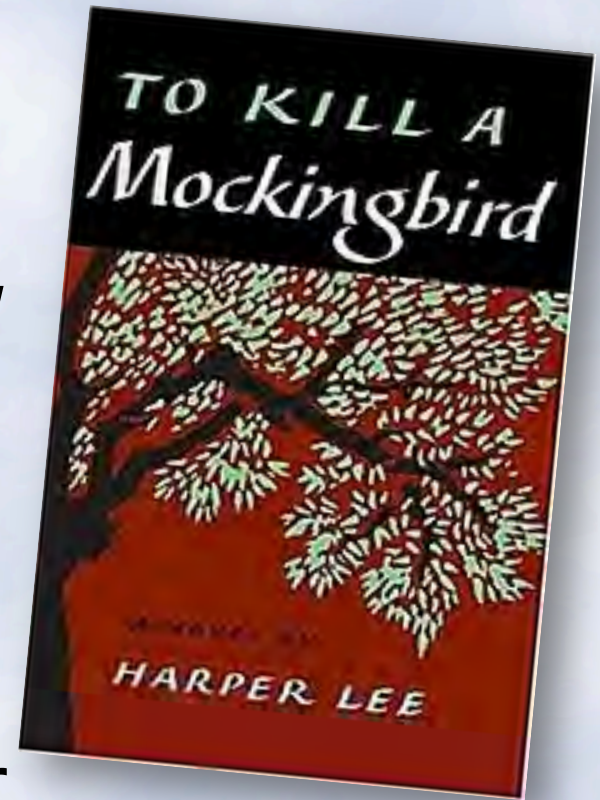
Sports Stars

- Ozzie Newsome: star UA football player and later played and managed in professional football.
- Jesse Owens: Olympic track and field star.
- Catherine "Cat" Reddick Whitehill: Olympic medalist in soccer.



Writers

- Many talented writers have come from Alabama.
- Fannie Flagg: author of many books including *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café*; she is also an actress and TV personality.
- Harper Lee: best known for the book *To Kill a Mockingbird*.



Writers

- Heather Whitestone McCallum: author of *Listening with My Heart*; she lost her hearing as a child and later became Miss America.
- Kathryn Tucker Windham: wrote *Alabama, One Big Front Porch*, and *My Name is Julia*; she is also a radio personality, journalist, and actor.





Image Credits

Title slide: Alabama Capitol by National Park Service: National Register of Historic Places; Slide 2: Desoto Falls by JS Fouche Public Domain Wikimedia Commons; Slide 21: Jylfe Dupuis; End slide: Coosa River by Mike Cline

[Return to Main Menu](#)