Walking on Water: A Brief History on Black Surfers
Directed by Rhasaan Nichols

This study guide was created by the Global Sport Institute at Arizona State University. https://globalsport.asu.edu
Walking on Water: a Brief History on Black Surfers - Worksheet
Directed by Rhasaan Nichols
https://youtu.be/da17wFbY5lk

Answer each of the following questions with bullet points or short sentences as you watch the 12-minute documentary. You’ll have a few minutes after watching to finish answering.

1. What was the Jim Crow order/Era?
   - Give an example of a Jim Crow law.

2. Who was Nick Gabaldon? Why is he important?

3. What was the African American Migration (also known as the Great Migration)?
   - What drove the migration West?

4. What are the main goals of the Surf Academy and YMCA youth program?
**Discussion Activities**  *wait until your teacher prompts you to start this section*

1. In this documentary surfing is used as a tool for community building and sharing history. In your opinion, why does sport matter? Write 2-3 ways sport has benefited your life, people you know, and/or your community.

2. Think about an activity or hobby you enjoy (playing piano, running, fixing cars, etc.). Who is an important person in the history of this activity/hobby that helped make it what it is today? Write their name, what they did for this activity/hobby, and list 3-4 ways how it would look different today if that person never took up this activity or hobby.

3. Many of the kids in this documentary, including the little boy at the very end, rarely or have never been to the beach, let alone learned how to surf. What is an activity, skill, or location that you think people could benefit from if they were introduced to it? Example - hiking in mountains/parks, playing the drums, etc. Develop a preliminary plan for how you could introduce more people to this activity/skill/location. Be sure to include why you think this activity/skill/location is important, what the potential benefits are, target audience (and why), how to reach them, and what equipment and/or services you’d need (e.g. transportation, surf boards and wetsuits, lessons).

   a. What is it?
   b. Why is it important and what are its potential benefits?
   c. Who is the target audience, and why?
   d. How will you reach this target audience?
   e. What equipment and/or services would you need?