

# Amplify Through Art

Data Visualization Artifacts  
Merry Lanker - Stephen Decatur Middle School

# Amplify Through Art Background

**Unit Overview** - In this unit, students will delve into the often overlooked and censored aspects of African American history in the United States. Through the lens of visual representation, students will explore significant events, figures, and narratives that have been marginalized in traditional historical narratives.

By creating various forms of visual media such as data visualizations, students will engage with these stories, gaining a deeper understanding of the complexities of African American history and the impact of censorship on historical narratives.

**Student Work Overview** - Data visualizations from students in African American Art History class at Stephen Decatur Middle School cover a wide variety of topics and issues, from the birthweight of enslaved babies to Martin Luther King, Jr.'s arrests, to the differences in Black and White schools during segregation, and more. Students took their understanding of data visualizations and did independent research with what were impassioned take further.

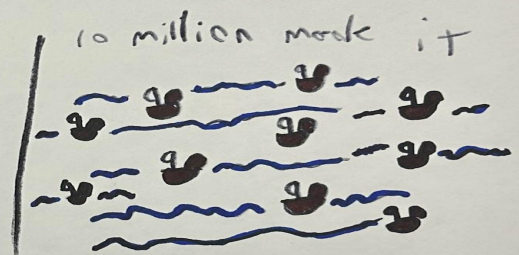
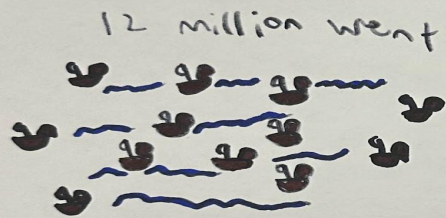
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Students looked at the work of data journalist and artist Mona Chalabi. They were inspired by her body of work.

Many students were shocked when they read the example of her work shown to the right  
*"For Every \$1 A White Man Earns"*



slaves who went to America compared to the amount who made it



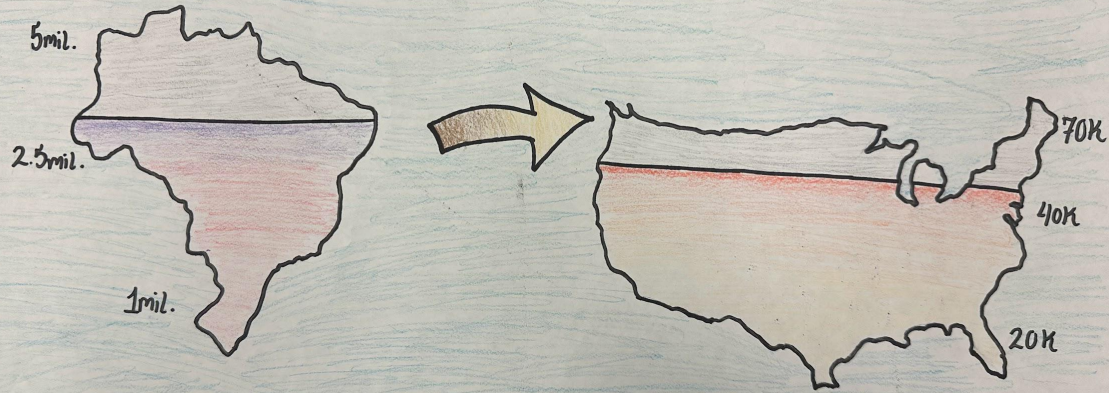
12.5 million people got on the boats but only 10.7 million people made it to America

1,800,000 people died going to America

## Data Visualization by Adrien J.

“12.5 million people got onto the boats but only 10.7 million people made it to America. 1,800,000 people died going to America.”

# HOW MANY SLAVES LANDED IN THE U.S



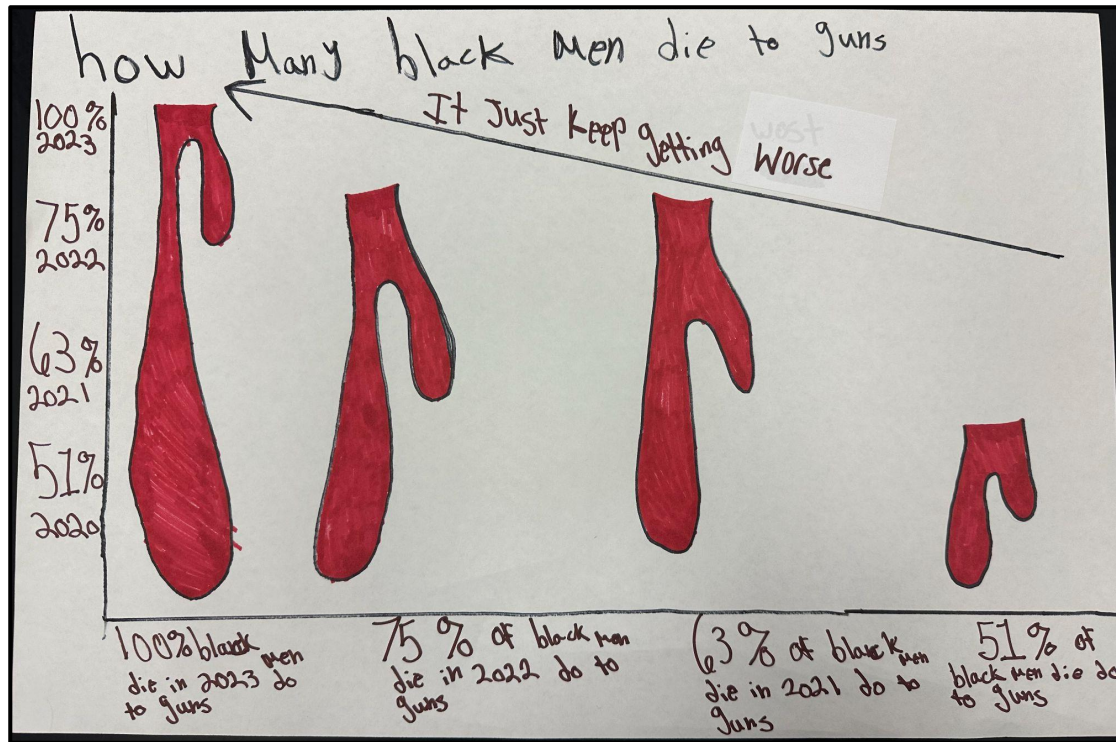
Data Visualization by Natalie F.

“How Many Slaves Landed in the US”



## Data Visualization by Danika G.

“The average weight for a baby was over 5.8 lbs. The average weight of a baby born to enslavement was under 5.5 lbs.”



## Data Visualization by Miley H.

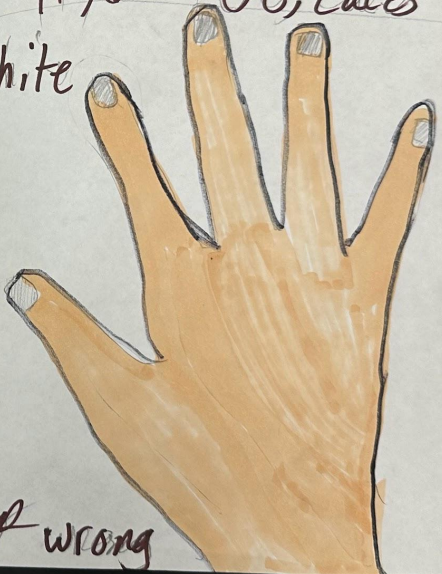
“The number of Black men killed by gun violence continues to grow over time.”

Kayla

1,000,000 cases  
every 387 hrs

794,000 cases of  
Black people  
than

11,634,000 cases  
white

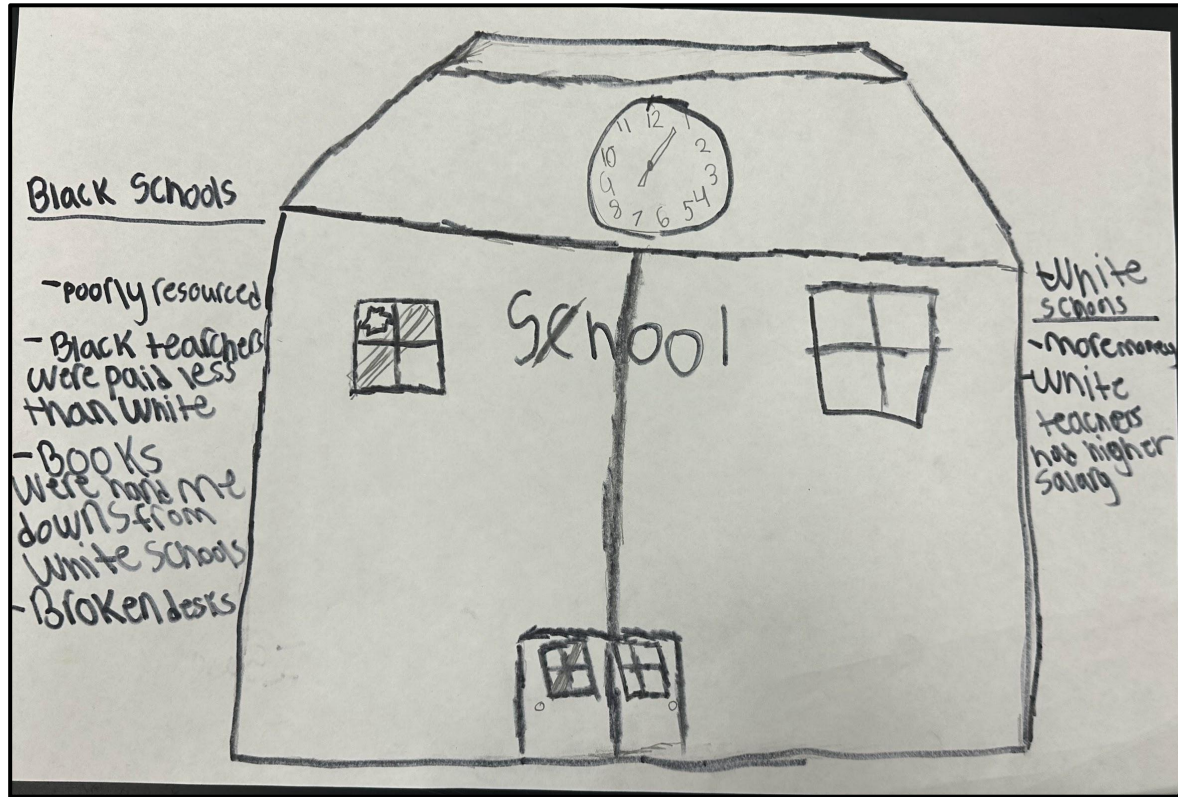


and half of  
them are false or wrong

### Data Visualization by Kayla W.

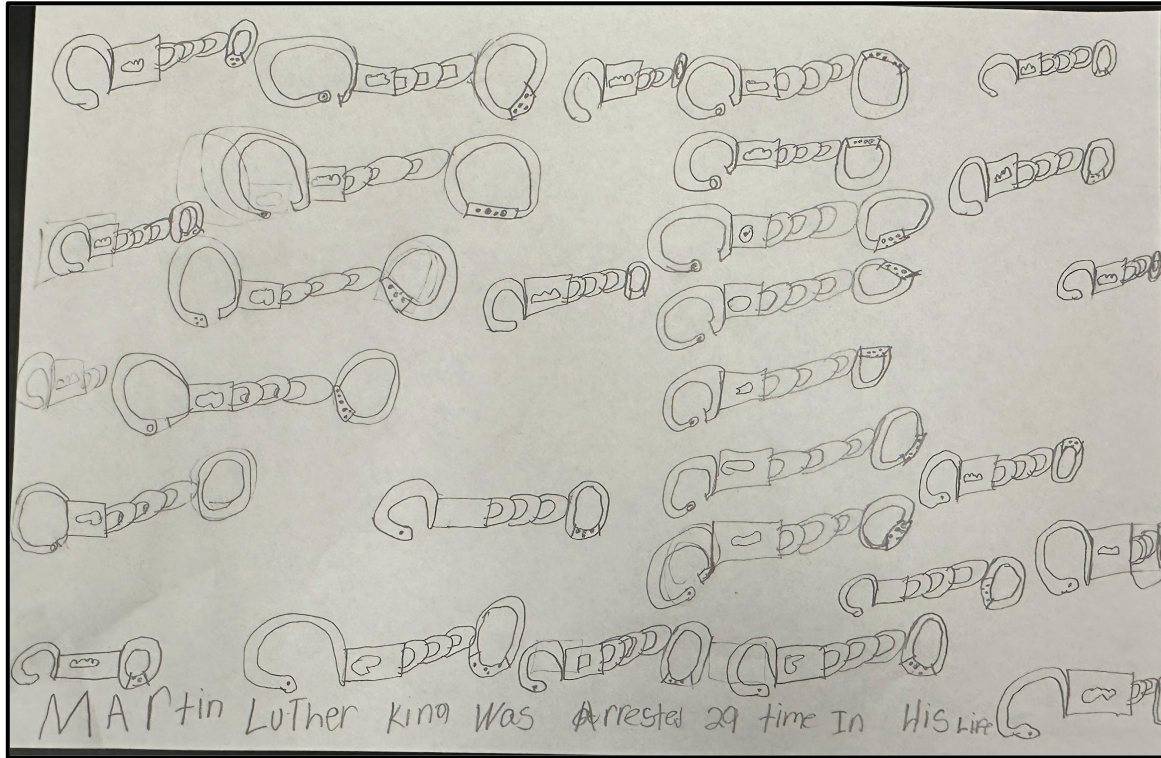
“Police brutality against Black people is significantly higher than it is for White people.”





## Data Visualization by Isaiah W. and Takari W.

There were major differences in school resource allocation during segregation. Black schools were poorly resourced; Black teachers were paid less than White teachers, books were often hand me downs from White schools, and items like desks were often broken or missing.”



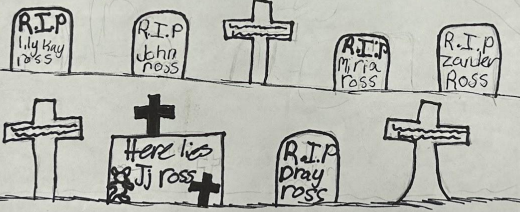
## Data Visualization by Bryshun H.

"Martin Luther King, Jr. was arrested 29 times during his lifetime."

Madison  
Botts

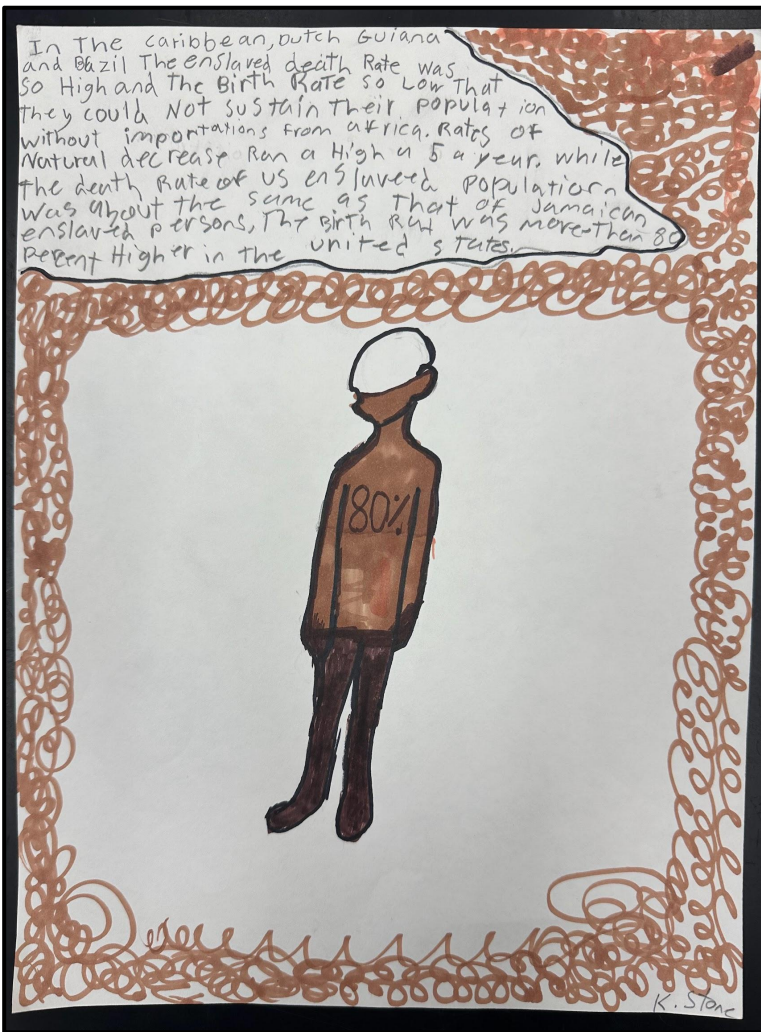
Infant and child mortality rates were twice as high among enslaved children as among Southern White children. Half of enslaved infants died in their first year of life. A major contributor to the high infant and child death rate was chronic undernourishment.

Here lie the Bodies of deceased Black Children. R.I.P



## Data Visualization by Maddie B.

“Infant and child mortality rates were twice as high among enslaved children.”



## Data Visualization by Krishnaun S.

“While the death rate of the US enslaved population was about the same as that of Jamaican enslaved persons, the birth rate was more than 80 percent higher in the United States. In the United States enslaved persons were more generations removed from Africa than those in the Caribbean.”