The Politics of Reconstruction

Objectives:
1. Summarize President Lincoln's Reconstruction policies.
2. Explain Congressional Reconstruction policies.
3. Identify the programs of Johnson's Reconstruction policy.

Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks
US1.40 Provide examples of the various effects of the Civil War.
US1.41 Explain the policies and consequences of Reconstruction.

Materials:
U.S. History text book
Internet Resources
Civil War Time line
Note book

Introduce the Goals and objectives

• Explain to students that they will learn about the political, social, and economic changes that took place between 1865 and 1877 as a result of Reconstruction policies.

Discuss Terms and Names

Andrew Johnson, Reconstruction Act, black codes, Reconstruction, Civil Rights Act, Ulysses S. Grant, Wade-Davis Bill, Thaddeus Stevens, Freedmen's Bureau, Radical Republicans, Fourteenth Amendment, Fifteenth Amendment

Instruct
Students will read the section of their text that explains Johnson's Reconstruction plans and Congresses reaction to it.

As students read about Reconstruction policies they should take notes that answer the following questions.

What did Johnson's Reconstruction plan call for?
A. Readmit states that would declare their secession illegal, swear allegiance to the Union, and ratify Thirteenth Amendment

What was the purpose of the Freedmen's Bureau?
A. To assist former slaves and poor whites in the South.

What were the provisions of the Civil Rights Act?
A. Gave African Americans citizenship, forbade states from passing black codes

What were the main provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment?
A. Provided a constitutional basis for the Civil Rights Act, declared all persons born or naturalized in the U.S. to be citizens.
What was the central issue of the 1866 congressional elections?
A. Reconstruction policy

What were the main features of Reconstruction act passed by congress in 1867?
A. Abolished governments formed in the former Confederate states; divided those states into five military districts; set up requirements for readmission to the Union, including the right to vote for all African American males and approved the fourteenth Amendment.

Why was Johnson impeached? What was the Senate's verdict after his impeachment trial
A. He violated the tenure of office act. Not Guilty

What did the Fifteenth Amendment guarantee?
A. The right to vote for former slaves and people of color

Students should define the following terms:
   Radical Republicans
       A. Republicans in Congress who were not satisfied with Lincoln's Reconstruction plans. They campaigned for African-American suffrage and wanted to destroy the political power of former slave holders.
   Thaddeus Stevens
       A. A Congressional representative from Pennsylvania who was a leader of the Radical Republicans
   Wade-Davis Bill
       A. an act passed by Radical Republicans in 1864 to take responsibility for Reconstruction from the President and give it to the Congress. Lincoln killed the bill with a pocket veto.

Assess & Reteach

Student's will create a timeline from 1865-1868 That includes and explains the following black codes, Reconstruction, Civil Rights Act, Ulysses S. Grant, Wade Davis Bill, Andrew Johnson, Thaddeus Stevens, Reconstruction Act, Freedmen's Bureau, Radical Republicans, Fourteenth Amendment, Fifteen Amendment