

Blues Music Comes to Chicago

READ:

In our fictional story for this activity, it's 1949 when eleven-year old Penny arrives in Bronzeville, Chicago's famous African American neighborhood. As part of the Great Migration, she and her family have left Mississippi to start a new life in the North. Luckily, Uncle Obie is already in Bronzeville to lend a helping hand and lots of encouragement. Cousin Lurlene, however, is just the opposite. She is not happy to meet Penny and her family and hints at race problems in the big city.

Read "A Bronzeville Story" <http://chicagohistoryresources.org/greatchicagostories/bronzeville/index.html>

Listen to the audio — <http://chicagohistoryresources.org/greatchicagostories/podcasts/GreatChicagoStories9ABronzevilleStory.mp3>

DO:

- **Look** at the artifact pictures that go with the story. http://chicagohistoryresources.org/greatchicagostories/pdf/artifacts/artifacts_bronzeville.pdf
- **Talk** about the story together. Who was your favorite character? What was your favorite part of the story? Why? Why is it important to get to know new people and places before making a judgement? What do you think Penny and her family did next?
- **Make** a scrapbook page showing all the things Penny saw and did on her first day of Chicago. Scrapbooks help people remember important times in their lives. What would Penny put on her scrapbook page? You can use the scrapbook sheet or make your own design on a blank piece of paper.
- **Draw** pictures and write captions to show your ideas. If you can print, use some of the pictures that go with the story. Cut them out and add your own drawing and writing to go with them.

Approx. Time: 30—45 minutes

Materials:

- ⇒ Drawing materials
- ⇒ Construction Paper
- ⇒ Scissors
- ⇒ Glue/Tape
- ⇒ Scrapbook Starter
- ⇒ Artifact image set (optional)

SHARE:

- **Show** your scrapbook page to your family!
- **Post** pictures of your scrapbook on social media with the hashtag #CHMatHomeFamilies.



This map shows the Mississippi Delta and some of the cities that African Americans moved to during the Great Migration. The red line is similar to the path Penny and her family took north.



Scrapbook Starter — A Bronzeville Story

Use the boxes to draw pictures and write about the story. Cut them out and arrange them on a separate piece of paper. Glue the cut outs down and add your own drawings or images from the photo packet.

