



# Curiosity Corner

## Treasures from the FCS Archives

Welcome to *Treasures from the FCS Archives*, a repository of resources for teachers and history enthusiasts! Every month, we are sharing photos, artifacts, documents and other treasures for you to review, discuss and discover. We encourage you to click the links, scan the photos and dig deeper into these treasures, all of which can be found in the Fulton County Schools Archives. Enjoy!

### IN AN ERA OF PROTEST: INTEGRATION SIT-IN OF 1970



Photograph, *Integration Sit-In, Administration Building on Cleveland Avenue, 1970.*  
FCS Archives, 1970.avpt.1.10.1

Sometimes pictures only tell half the story. It's then up to the viewer to consider the who, what, when, and why of the photograph in order to have a better understanding of the story and historical context. This is certainly the case with a collection of photographs featured in this month's *Curiosity Corner*.

A series of seven images recently found in the Fulton County Schools Archives seemed to have little historical significance until an inscription found on the back of one photograph prompted more research. The hand-written note reads "*Integration Sit-in, 1970*". Still, the collection raised more questions than it answered. Who were these people? And what exactly are they protesting? While clues in the photographs provide some insight, historic correspondence and other documents found in the FCS Archives reveal this demonstration's connection to specific events that preceded that day in 1970. Indeed, this collection of images sheds light on how the Civil Rights Movement—and de-segregation, in particular—played out in Fulton County Schools.

In an era when protests over war, equality, civil rights and politics were breaking out across the country, this student sit-in appears rather modest. It, however, provides an example of the power of nonviolent resistance, demonstrating how individuals often seek to address challenges and controversy even on a local level.

A local resource for learning about civil disobedience and nonviolent protest is **The Center for Civil and Human Rights**. Check out their [online education resources](#).



#### Curiosity in the Classroom:

##### *A Closer Look*

Click on the image above for a higher resolution jpeg. Ask students to carefully and quietly study the image.

##### Ask students:

- What do you see?
- What do you see that makes you say that?
- When was this photograph taken? What do you see that makes you say that?
- Where was this photograph taken? What do you see that makes you say that?
- Who are these individuals and what are they doing?
- Who might have taken this photo?
- Why was this photo taken?

After prompting student observations and curiosity, guide students through discovering answers to their questions through the text on this main page and provided links.

#### Lesson Ideas & Links: Connecting to Standards

[Elementary School Connections](#)

[Related Primary Sources](#)

[Middle School Connections](#)

[Ask the Teaching Museum](#)

[High School Connections](#)

[Additional Online Resources](#)

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For more information and resources or to connect with staff at the *FCS Archives*, contact us at [archives@fultonschools.org](mailto:archives@fultonschools.org)

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