**Breaking Barriers In History** Theme Guide

**Break (verb)**
“to separate into parts; to violate or transgress” — *Merriam-Webster*
“to overcome, interrupt or disrupt something; may or may not be able to repair” — *NHD in Wisconsin Office*

**Barrier (noun)**
“something material that blocks or is intended to block passage” — *Merriam-Webster*
“something in the way” — *NHD in Wisconsin Office*

---

**Ask yourself:**

**Is someone working alone or in a group?**
What resources do they have to help? How are they planning to break through?

**Does everyone agree that there is a barrier?**
Why or why not?

**Are all barriers bad?**
Depends! Some laws, fences or other security measures are made to protect people. Have you ever seen a fence with the sign below?

**What kind(s) of barriers?**
Barriers can be in all shapes and sizes. There can be many or few. What are the major people, objects, ideas, or other barriers in the way? **How** are they going to break barriers?

**What is the goal?**
Look at where the person or group started (or is) and where they wish to go. What does success or “making it” look like?

**Future barriers?**
Is the barrier gone? Will more people continue to face these (same) barriers? Are there more ahead?

---

**Where did the barriers come from?**
Who or what made the barrier? Why? When? Who sees the barrier?