



Mississippi History on Loan

ELVIS '56

The Mississippi Department of Archives and History established the Mississippi History on Loan video program to enhance classroom instruction on Mississippi history, literature, art, personalities, and places. The program has over 200 titles available year-round for grades 4-12. The videos are offered in VHS and DVD format.

Mississippi History on Loan presents *Elvis '56*. As 1956 began, Elvis Presley was a regional curiosity, hustling his rock-a-billy and blues tunes on the Southern dance club circuit. Twelve months later, a dazed Elvis would find himself with multiple gold records to his credit, a Paramount movie contract, a starring role in the year's number two box office money-maker, and an explosively growing legion of adoring fans. This film spotlights that year of unforgettable hits and his controversial appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show plus rare, early recordings and footage.

Produced by Elvis '56, Inc. & Light Year Entertainment Production, 1987. 61 minutes, color and black and white.

The lesson plan includes the following:

- Common Core and Social Studies Frameworks
- Check Your Watching
- The People in Elvis's Life
- Elvis's Television Debut
- Elvis's Musical Influences
- Home Is Where the Heart Is
- All Shook Up Word Search
- Talent Contest
- Elvis on Film
- The Reviews Are In
- After '56
- Teacher Evaluation

For more information please contact:

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Mississippi History on Loan

ELVIS '56

MDAH works to ensure our lessons and activities work with and complement the updated Mississippi Department of Education frameworks, competencies, and objectives. Each lesson and activity has been matched to the grade levels, subjects, competencies, and objectives.

Mississippi Department of Education Curricular Connections		
Common Core Language Arts	Grade 4	W1; W2; W4; W5; W7; W8; W9b; SL1; SL2; SL3; SL5; SL6; L1; L2; L3
	Grade 5	W1; W2; W4; W5; W7; W8; W9b; SL1; SL3; SL5; SL6; L1; L2; L3a
	Grade 6	W1; W2; W4; W5; W7; W8; W9b; SL1; SL2; SL3; SL4; SL5; SL6; L1; L2; L3; WHST1; WHST2; WHST4; WHST5; WHST7; WHST8; WHST9
	Grade 7	W1; W2; W4; W5; W7; W8; W9b; SL1; SL2; SL3; SL4; SL5; SL6; L1; L2; L3; WHST1; WHST2; WHST4; WHST5; WHST7; WHST8; WHST9
	Grade 8	W1; W2; W4; W5; W7; W8; W9b; SL1; SL2; SL3; SL4; SL5; SL6; L1; L2; L3; WHST1; WHST2; WHST4; WHST5; WHST7; WHST8; WHST9
	Grades 9-10	W1; W2; W4; W5; W7; W8; W9b; SL1; SL2; SL3; SL4; SL5; SL6; L1; L2; L3; WHST1; WHST2; WHST4; WHST5; WHST7; WHST8; WHST9
	Grades 11-12	W1; W2; W4; W5; W7; W8; W9b; SL1; SL2; SL3; SL4; SL5; SL6; L1; L2; L3; WHST1; WHST2; WHST4; WHST5; WHST7; WHST8; WHST9
Social Studies	Grade 4 Mississippi Studies	4b; 6b; 6c
	Grade 9 Mississippi Studies	6a
	U.S. History from Post-Reconstruction to Present	7a; 7c; 7d



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ELVIS '56

Check Your Watching

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Fill in the blanks while watching the film.

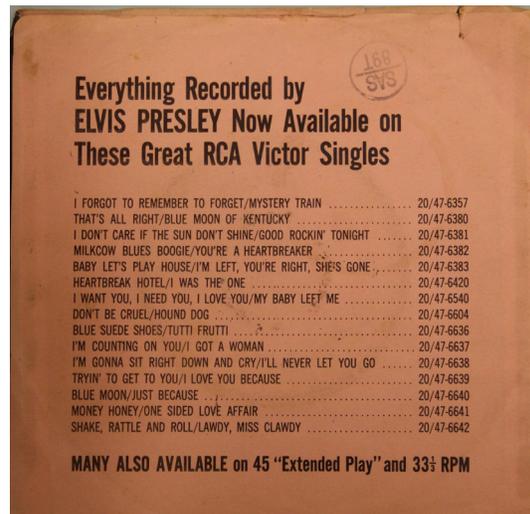
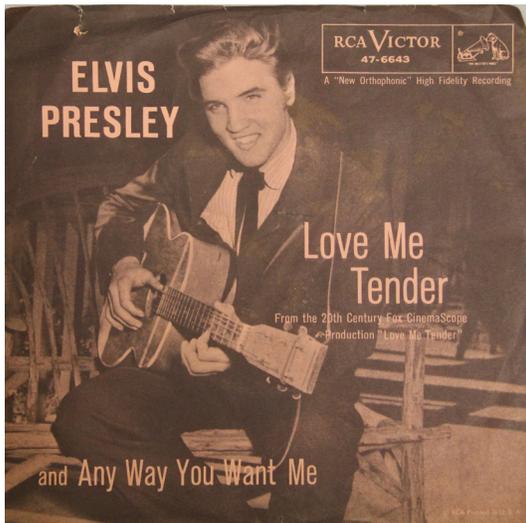
1. Before he became a big star, Elvis was working in Memphis as a _____.
2. The girls screamed for Elvis because of the way he _____ when he sang.
3. Early on _____ said, "Son, right now you have a million dollars worth of talent. By the time we're through, you'll have a million dollars."
4. In January, Elvis records his first hit, a song called _____.
5. Elvis makes his first appearance on _____ on January 28, 1956, on the *Dorsey Brothers Stage Show*. He sings "Shake, Rattle and Roll."
6. Some people consider Elvis's look and sound to be _____ and to contribute to juvenile delinquency.
7. Elvis combines his southern musical influences of black and white music, country and western, pop, and gospel to make his own brand of _____.
8. He breaks down racial barriers by singing songs popularized by _____, such as Little Richard's "Tutti Fruitti."
9. In April, Elvis goes to _____ to audition for motion pictures.
10. A series of concerts in Las Vegas fizzles because unlike his usual teenage audience, the Vegas audience is _____.
11. On June 5, Elvis appears on the *Milton Berle Show* and sings _____. He is criticized for his wild dancing and gyrations on screen.
12. Several weeks later on the *Steve Allen Show*, Elvis reprises "Hound Dog" while singing to a _____. Later Elvis said it was "the most ridiculous performance of my entire career."
13. Elvis merchandise begins to appear including Elvis themed _____
_____.

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Check Your Watching

14. One of the things Elvis buys for his parents with his new wealth are a pair of new pink and white _____.
15. In August, Elvis begins filming his first motion picture *The Reno Brothers*. It is later retitled _____ after one of the four songs he sings in the film.



Love Me Tender Album Cover. MDAH, Museum Division Collections.

16. Elvis makes his first appearance on the *Ed Sullivan Show* on September 9. _____ out of _____ Americans watch.
17. Elvis is the star attraction at the _____ held in his hometown of Tupelo. He donates his \$10,000 fee to charity.
18. It is reported in October that Elvis has become a _____.
19. On January 6, 1957, Elvis makes one of his final television appearances on the *Ed Sullivan Show*. His final song of the show is the _____ classic "Peace in the Valley."
20. By the end of 1956, Elvis has _____ gold records for singles that sold over 1 million copies each.



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ELVIS '56

Check Your Watching **Answer Key**

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Fill in the blanks while watching the film.

1. Before he became a big star, Elvis was working in Memphis as a truck driver.
2. The girls screamed for Elvis because of the way he moved when he sang.
3. Early on Colonel Tom Parker said, "Son, right now you have a million dollars worth of talent. By the time we're through, you'll have a million dollars."
4. In January, Elvis records his first hit, a song called "Heartbreak Hotel."
5. Elvis makes his first appearance on television on January 28, 1956, on the *Dorsey Brothers Stage Show*. He sings "Shake, Rattle and Roll."
6. Some people consider Elvis's look and sound to be dangerous and to contribute to juvenile delinquency.
7. Elvis combines his southern musical influences of black and white music, country and western, pop, and gospel to make his own brand of rock and roll.
8. He breaks down racial barriers by singing songs popularized by African Americans, such as Little Richard's "Tutti Fruitti."
9. In April, Elvis goes to Hollywood to audition for motion pictures.
10. A series of concerts in Las Vegas fizzles because unlike his usual teenage audience, the Vegas audience is older.
11. On June 5, Elvis appears on the *Milton Berle Show* and sings "Hound Dog." He is criticized for his wild dancing and gyrations on screen.
12. Several weeks later on the *Steve Allen Show*, Elvis reprises "Hound Dog" while singing to a basset hound. Later Elvis said it was "the most ridiculous performance of my entire career."
13. Elvis merchandise begins to appear including Elvis themed bubble gum, jewelry, clothing, and toys.



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ELVIS '56

Check Your Watching **Answer Key**

14. One of the things Elvis buys for his parents with his new wealth are a pair of new pink and white Cadillacs.
15. In August, Elvis begins filming his first motion picture *The Reno Brothers*. It is later retitled *Love Me Tender* after one of the four songs he sings in the film.
16. Elvis makes his first appearance on the *Ed Sullivan Show* on September 9. One out of three Americans watch.
17. Elvis is the star attraction at the Mississippi State Fair held in his hometown of Tupelo. He donates his \$10,000 fee to charity.
18. It is reported in October that Elvis has become a millionaire.
19. On January 6, 1957, Elvis makes one of his final television appearances on the *Ed Sullivan Show*. His final song of the show is the gospel classic "Peace in the Valley."
20. By the end of 1956, Elvis has 5 gold records for singles that sold over 1 million copies each.

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ELVIS '56

The People in Elvis's Life

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Match the name of the individual or group from the word bank with their description below

Elvis's band	James Dean
television hosts	Vernon and Gladys
Colonel Tom Parker	Big Mama Thornton
Liberace	Sam Phillips
Elvis Presley	Ken Darby Trio

- _____ • Owner of Sun Studios in Memphis who first recorded Elvis.
- _____ • Ex-carnival huckster, promoter and manager of Elvis.
- _____ • Elvis's parents.
- _____ • Elvis's Hollywood backup singers.
- _____ • D.J. Fontana, Scotty Moore, Bill Black.
- _____ • Mr. Showmanship who gives Elvis advice on how to dress to please an audience.
- _____ • Elvis's favorite actor from *Rebel Without a Cause*.
- _____ • The Dorsey Brothers, Milton Berle, Steve Allen, Ed Sullivan.
- _____ • Rhythm and blues singer who first recorded "Hound Dog" in 1952.
- _____ • The King of Rock and Roll.

Mississippi History on Loan

ELVIS '56

The People in Elvis's Life **Answer Key**

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Match the name of the individual or group from the word bank with their description below

Elvis's band	James Dean
television hosts	Vernon and Gladys
Colonel Tom Parker	Big Mama Thornton
Liberace	Sam Phillips
Elvis Presley	Ken Darby Trio

Sam Phillips

- Owner of Sun Studios in Memphis who first recorded Elvis.

Colonel Tom Parker

- Ex-carnival huckster, promoter and manager of Elvis.

Vernon and Gladys

- Elvis's parents.

Ken Darby Trio

- Elvis's Hollywood backup singers.

Elvis's band

- D.J. Fontana, Scotty Moore, Bill Black.

Liberace

- Mr. Showmanship who gives Elvis advice on how to dress to please an audience.

James Dean

- Elvis's favorite actor from *Rebel Without a Cause*.

television hosts

- The Dorsey Brothers, Milton Berle, Steve Allen, Ed Sullivan.

Big Mama Thornton

- Rhythm and blues singer who first recorded "Hound Dog" in 1952.

Elvis Presley

- The King of Rock and Roll.

Mississippi History on Loan

ELVIS '56

Elvis's Television Debut

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Elvis Presley made his television debut on January 28, 1956, on the *Dorsey Brothers Stage Show* where he sang "Shake, Rattle and Roll." On a competing network was the *Perry Como Show*, where its 44-year-old host sang "Hot Diggity." Listen to a recording of the two singers performing these songs and follow along with the lyrics below. What are some of the differences between the two? Are there any similarities? Why do you think some Americans may have considered Elvis dangerous? Are your opinions the same if you watch a performance of these songs instead of just listen to them?

"Hot Diggity"	"Shake, Rattle and Roll"
<p>[Refrain] Oh, hot diggity, dog ziggity, boom what you do to me It's so new to me, what you do to me Hot diggity, dog ziggity, boom what you do to me When you're holding me tight</p> <p>Never dreamed anybody could kiss thattaway Bring me bliss thattaway, what a kiss thattaway What a wonderful feelin' to feel thattaway Tell me where have you been all my life</p>	<p>Well get out of that bed, wash your face and hands Get out of that bed, wash your face and hands Well get in that kitchen Make some noise with the pots and pans I believe it to my soul you're the devil in nylon hose I believe it to my soul you're the devil in nylon hose For the harder I work the faster my money goes</p>
<p>[Refrain]</p>	<p>[Refrain]</p>
<p>Never knew that my heart could go "zing" thattaway Ting-a-ling thattaway, make me sing thattaway Said "goodbye" to my troubles, they went thattaway Ever since you came into my life</p>	<p>Well I said shake, rattle and roll I said shake rattle and roll I said shake, rattle and roll I said shake rattle and roll Well you won't do right To save your doggone soul</p>
<p>[Refrain]</p>	<p>Shake rattle and roll</p>
<p>There's a cute little cottage for two thattaway Skies are blue thattaway, dreams come true thattaway If you say I can share it with you thattaway I'll be happy the rest of my life</p>	<p>I'm like the one-eyed cat peeping in a seafood store I'm like the one-eyed cat peeping in a seafood store Well I can look at you tell you ain't no child no more I believe you're doing me wrong and now I know I believe you're doing me wrong and now I know 'Cause the harder I work the faster my money goes</p>
<p>[Refrain]</p>	<p>[Refrain]</p>
<p>Oh, hot diggity, dog ziggity, boom what you do to me How my future will shine Hot diggity, dog ziggity, boom what you do to me From the moment you're mine</p>	<p>Play it again!</p> <p>I went over the hill, way down underneath I went over the hill, way down underneath You make me roll my eyes And then you make me grit my teeth</p>
<p>Hot dog!!</p>	<p>[Refrain]</p>

Written by Al Hoffman and Dick Manning, 1956.

Written by Jesse Stone (AKA Charles E. Calhoun), 1954.

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ELVIS '56

Elvis's Musical Influences

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Elvis drew upon the black and white, country and western, pop, and gospel music of the South to make his own brand of rock and roll. Listen to some of the songs listed below as recorded by their original artist. What elements of these diverse musical genres did Elvis incorporate into his own versions of the same songs and his music as a whole?

Gospel
"Peace in the Valley"
by Thomas A. Dorsey
Mahalia Jackson, 1937

Civil War Ballad
"Love Me Tender"
tune of "Aura Lee" by W.W. Fosdick
and George R. Poulton, 1861

Rhythm and Blues
"My Baby Left Me"
by Arthur Big Boy Crudup
Arthur Big Boy Crudup, 1950

Bluegrass
"Blue Moon of Kentucky"
by Bill Monroe
Bill Monroe and the Bluegrass Boys, 1946

The Blues
"Hound Dog"
by Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller
Big Mama Thornton, 1952

Country Western
"Peace in the Valley"
by Thomas A. Dorsey
Red Foley and the Sunshine Boys, 1951

Rock and Roll
"Shake, Rattle and Roll"
by Jesse Stone (AKA Charles E. Calhoun)
Big Joe Turner and Bill Haley & His Comets, 1954

Gospel
"Crying in the Chapel"
by Artie Glenn
Darrell Glenn, 1953

Rock and Roll
"Tutti Fruitti"
by Little Richard and Dorothy LaBostrie
Little Richard, 1955

The Blues
"Baby Let's Play House"
by Arthur Gunter
Arthur Gunter, 1954

Rockabilly
"Blue Suede Shoes"
by Carl Perkins
Carl Perkins, 1955

Mississippi History on Loan

ELVIS '56

Elvis's Musical Influences **Answer Key**

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Elvis drew upon the black and white, country and western, pop, and gospel music of the South to make his own brand of rock and roll. Listen to some of the songs listed below as recorded by their original artist. What elements of these diverse musical genres did Elvis incorporate into his own versions of the same songs and his music as a whole?

Mahalia Jackson

A singer in the tradition of black spirituals, Jackson's gospel music was sung from religious conviction with the purpose of giving hope and relieving sadness.

Civil War Ballad

Elvis not only sang the "Love Me Tender" lyrics to this Civil War tune, he also sang "Violet" in *The Trouble with Girls* to the same melody.

Arthur Crudup

Elvis recorded three blues songs by Crudup in the 1950s, establishing the latter as a major influence of rock and roll.

Bill Monroe

Known as the Father of Bluegrass, he defined the style with his high tenor voice, driving mandolin, and use of the banjo.

Big Mama Thornton

Thornton moaned, growled, and belted the Blues, tactics Elvis applied to his rock and roll version of the song.

Red Foley

Although a country western singer, Foley's rendition of "Peace in the Valley" was one of the first gospel recordings to sell over 1 million copies.

"Shake, Rattle and Roll"

A 12-bar blues form song with a simple verse-chorus structure.

"Crying in the Chapel"

One of the most covered songs of 1953 with an easy listening feel and inspirational lyrics.

Little Richard

Little Richard's hard-driving sound and wild lyrics in "Tutti Fruitti" were not toned down for white audiences by Elvis.

"Baby Let's Play House"

R&B singer Arthur Gunter's song was influenced by country western and rockabilly artists, clear evidence of the close ties between musical genres of the time.

"Blue Suede Shoes"

Elvis retained the rockabilly twang heard in Carl Perkins' version of the song; the two were friends.

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Home Is Where the Heart Is

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Elvis was born in a two-room house built by his father in Tupelo, Mississippi, and lived there until his family moved to Memphis when he was 13. When he was 22, he bought Graceland, a large, private estate for himself, his parents, and grandmother. Look at the images below and label them as Tupelo or Graceland.



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____



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Home Is Where the Heart Is

Name _____ Date _____



7. _____



8. _____



9. _____



10. _____



11. _____



12. _____



Mississippi History on Loan ELVIS '56

Home Is Where the Heart Is **Answer Key**

1. Tupelo
2. Graceland
3. Graceland
4. Graceland
5. Graceland
6. Tupelo
7. Graceland
8. Tupelo
9. Tupelo
10. Graceland
11. Graceland
12. Tupelo

Mississippi History on Loan

ELVIS '56

All Shook Up Word Search

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Use the word bank on the right to find some of Elvis's hit songs in the word search.

S U T E L S E B I T S T P V Y S T H L V E Y E
N F Y V N L S C U I N B R A U L R I H U U H V
S F O O L S R U S H I N W W E L A U R F E L R
D Y O L H O S R L V A Y G A R N R A E A H O E
N C E N M T N E G N M U I H L E L L C Y E S P
I T T I U R F I T T U T I L D O E L R S A W R
M T H G I N O T E M O S E N O L U O Y E R A W
S W I N G D O W N S W E E T C H A R I O T L E
U L V I S O R V T K Y T S Y O B N D N H B W S
O O I L T O T U M E E T R W L A O N G S R A B
I G V L P I H Y L M H E G U N N B A I E E Y O
C O A A U A S L E G V R E Y T L G E N D A S C
I S L F U O B V I E E H O B T O E L T E K O O
P A A P L N O R N A A A E L D D M T H U H N A
S O S L H L L R T W A C C D D E O T E S O M W
U S V E O A O T A D R V N R E S E A C E T Y S
S T E H S W H I N U U U E H K E H R H U E M O
D K G T O O I H E R O C T B L L E E A L L I T
L E A N U A L L S H O O K U P E O K P B A N S
E H S A Y E L L A V E H T N I E C A E P P D V
T T R C H A E O E K C O R E S U O H L I A J T
I T B A B Y L E T S P L A Y H O U S E L D E A
T N A N I I L D G E V E U P T U U T F A I S E

- All Shook Up
- Always on My Mind
- Are You Lonesome Tonight?
- Baby Lets Play House
- Blue Hawaii
- Blue Suede Shoes
- Can't Help Falling In Love
- Crying in the Chapel
- Don't Be Cruel
- Fools Rush In
- Heartbreak Hotel
- Hound Dog
- How Great Thou Art
- It's Now or Never
- Jailhouse Rock
- Love Me Tender
- My Way
- Old Shep
- Peace in the Valley
- Shake, Rattle and Roll
- Suspicious Minds
- Swing Down Sweet Chariot
- That's Alright
- Tutti Fruitti
- Viva Las Vegas

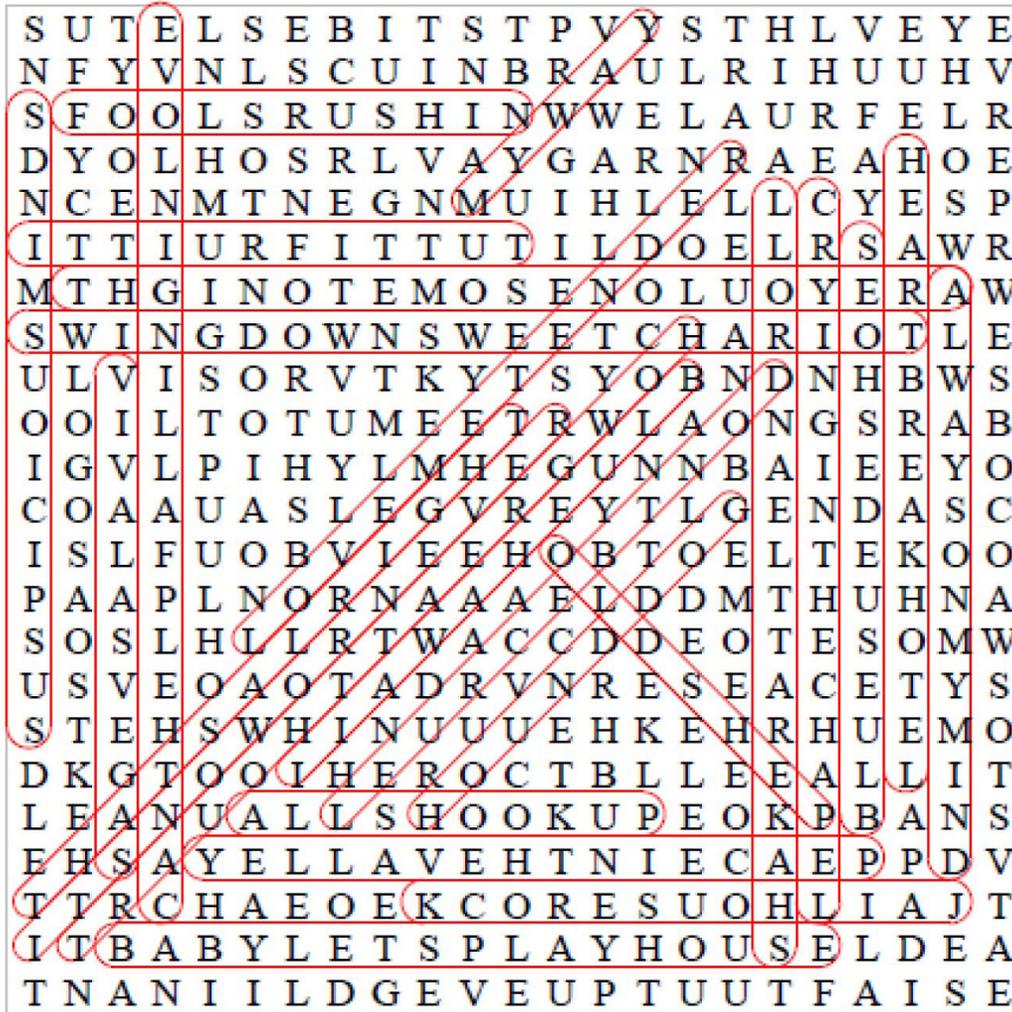
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ELVIS '56

All Shook Up Word Search Answer Key

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Use the word bank on the right to find some of Elvis's hit songs in the word search.



- All Shook Up
- Always on My Mind
- Are You Lonesome Tonight?
- Baby Lets Play House
- Blue Hawaii
- Blue Suede Shoes
- Can't Help Falling In Love
- Crying in the Chapel
- Don't Be Cruel
- Fools Rush In
- Heartbreak Hotel
- Hound Dog
- How Great Thou Art
- It's Now or Never
- Jailhouse Rock
- Love Me Tender
- My Way
- Old Shep
- Peace in the Valley
- Shake, Rattle and Roll
- Suspicious Minds
- Swing Down Sweet Chariot
- That's Alright
- Tutti Fruitti
- Viva Las Vegas

Mississippi History on Loan

ELVIS '56

Talent Contest

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: When he was 10 years old, Elvis competed in the Mississippi-Alabama Fair and Dairy Show singing contest. He sang one of his favorite songs, "Old Shep," a country ballad about a boy and his beloved dog. Stage a talent show in the classroom and perform Elvis songs for your classmates, school, or parents. Choose from one of songs in the film listed below or do research to find another Elvis tune.



Blue Suede Shoes
Heartbreak Hotel
Baby Lets Play House
Hound Dog
Don't Be Cruel
Love Me Tender
Peace in the Valley
Shake, Rattle and Roll
Tutti Fruitti

Love Me Tender Album. MDAH, Museum Division Collections.

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ELVIS '56

Elvis on Film

Directions: Choose one of Elvis's thirty-three films to screen and discuss with your class.



Jailhouse Rock advertisement at the Starlite Drive-In Theatre, Natchez, 1958. MDAH, Archives and Records Services.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <i>Love Me Tender (1956)</i> | <i>Girl Happy (1965)</i> |
| <i>Loving You (1957)</i> | <i>Tickle Me (1965)</i> |
| <i>Jailhouse Rock (1957)</i> | <i>Harum Scarum (1965)</i> |
| <i>King Creole (1958)</i> | <i>Frankie and Johnny (1966)</i> |
| <i>G.I. Blues (1960)</i> | <i>Paradise, Hawaiian Style (1966)</i> |
| <i>Flaming Star (1960)</i> | <i>Spinout (1966)</i> |
| <i>Wild in the Country (1961)</i> | <i>Easy Come, Easy Go (1967)</i> |
| <i>Blue Hawaii (1961)</i> | <i>Double Trouble (1967)</i> |
| <i>Follow That Dream (1962)</i> | <i>Clambake (1967)</i> |
| <i>Kid Galahad (1962)</i> | <i>Stay Away, Joe (1968)</i> |
| <i>Girls! Girls! Girls! (1962)</i> | <i>Speedway (1968)</i> |
| <i>It Happened at the World's Fair (1963)</i> | <i>Live a Little, Love a Little (1968)</i> |
| <i>Fun in Acapulco (1963)</i> | <i>Charro! (1969)</i> |
| <i>Kissin' Cousins (1964)</i> | <i>The Trouble with Girls (1969)</i> |
| <i>Viva Las Vegas (1964)</i> | <i>Change of Habit (1969)</i> |
| <i>Roustabout (1964)</i> | |



Mississippi History on Loan ELVIS '56

Teacher Evaluation

COMPLETE BOTH SIDES AND PLEASE MAIL OR FAX TO THE ADDRESS ON THE NEXT PAGE. THANK YOU!

TEACHER NAME _____

SCHOOL NAME & ADDRESS _____

EMAIL (OPTIONAL) _____

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS _____ GRADE LEVEL _____

1. In your opinion, did this unit elicit better than average student response; if so, how?

2. Which segments of the unit exceeded your students' attention span?

3. Will this unit be of assistance to you in developing future classroom activities; if so, how?

4. How did this unit add to your earlier teaching on the same subject?

5. Would this teaching unit be handier to use as a:

___single-day unit

___multi-day unit

___multi-week unit

___other

6. Were the activities and lessons appropriate for your students? How?

Mississippi History on Loan ELVIS '56

Teacher Evaluation

Please rate the following lesson materials and activities by circling the appropriate number.

4=excellent, 3=good, 2=average, 1=inadequate

Directions and Notes	4	3	2	1
Curricular Connections	4	3	2	1
Student Worksheets	4	3	2	1
Check Your Watching	4	3	2	1
The People in Elvis's Life	4	3	2	1
Elvis's Television Debut	4	3	2	1
Elvis's Musical Influences	4	3	2	1
Home Is Where the Heart Is	4	3	2	1
All Shook Up Word Search	4	3	2	1
Talent Contest	4	3	2	1
Elvis on Film	4	3	2	1
The Reviews Are In	4	3	2	1
After '56	4	3	2	1
Overall Lesson	4	3	2	1

We would appreciate any additional comments on this teaching unit and any suggestions for improvement. Comments may be entered in the space below.

Museum Division
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
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