

WebQuest

Mahalia Jackson: What Would She Say?

Introduction

You will have the opportunity to explore more about Mahalia Jackson's life and accomplishments and then write a pretend interview with her.

Process

Step 1

You will need a journal or other notebook to take notes as you go to each Web site listed below.

Step 2

Visit each of the Web sites and make notes about Mahalia Jackson's life.

Web Sites:

- [Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Inductees: Mahalia Jackson](#)
- [Southern Music Network: Mahalia Jackson](#)
- [This Day in History: Mahalia Jackson](#)
- [PBS: American Roots Music—Mahalia Jackson](#)

Step 3

After you have completed your research, pretend that you are interviewing Mahalia Jackson about her life. You will write both sides of the interview: the questions and the answers.

Begin by writing four questions in your role as the interviewer. Then answer each of those questions, as you think Mahalia Jackson might have answered. You might want to ask questions about her childhood, singing, the other famous singers and musicians she worked with, or her work with the Civil Rights movement.

Step 4

Once your interview is complete, check it for spelling and punctuation errors. Make all the necessary corrections.

Step 5

Read your interview aloud to the class.

Conclusion: Things to Think About

Why do you think Mahalia Jackson was honored in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1997, even though she was a gospel singer?