

ThinkSheet: Were all black people in Maryland slaves?

Some questions to think about:

1. Could the number of free black people in your county sit down in a local movie theater? For which year (s) would that be true?
2. Over the years, did the number of free black people increase or decrease? Why do you think this happened?
3. In which counties did the most free black people live? Why do you think this happened?
4. Why do you think the free black population in Baltimore County dipped so much during 1860?
5. How could you find out how the number of free black people compared to the number of slaves? Why might this information be useful to an historian?