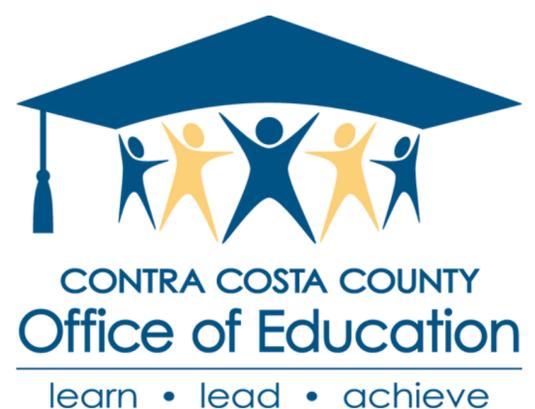


FEBRUARY IS  
**BLACK HISTORY  
MONTH**



# ELEMENTARY LEVEL

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Use these materials to begin a conversation with elementary grade students about the experiences and accomplishments of Black people and how they have contributed to the culture and history of our country.

## GUIDING QUESTION

What are the experiences and lasting contributions of Black men and women to the culture and history of the United States?



## EXPLORE

- Watch one or more of these short **videos that celebrate a long tradition of black activists, icons, and entertainers**. [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLu4Zo9fB5MNczNGaRc86Fx\\_ePVrXMgEZ2](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLu4Zo9fB5MNczNGaRc86Fx_ePVrXMgEZ2)
- Listen to a TED Talk about **African-American social dances** and how they keep cultural traditions alive and continue to influence dance today. [https://www.ted.com/talks/camille\\_a\\_brown\\_a\\_visual\\_history\\_of\\_social\\_dance\\_in\\_25\\_moves?referrer=playlist-10\\_great\\_talks\\_to\\_celebrate\\_bl&language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/camille_a_brown_a_visual_history_of_social_dance_in_25_moves?referrer=playlist-10_great_talks_to_celebrate_bl&language=en)
- Watch author **Kwame Alexander read his award-winning picture book, *The Undefeated***. [https://www.teachingbooks.net/book\\_reading.cgi?id=19135](https://www.teachingbooks.net/book_reading.cgi?id=19135)
- Read about **African American Heroes** such as George Washington Carver, Bessie Coleman, Katherine Johnson, Thurgood Marshall, and others, on National Geographic Kids. <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/history/topic/african-american-heroes>



## EXPLAIN

- Based on these resources, share some examples of what you have learned about the experiences, accomplishments, and contributions of Black people to our country's history.
- What are some actions Black people have taken to bring more justice and fairness to our country? (*Social Justice Standard JU.3-5.15*)



## ENGAGE FURTHER

- Explore virtual exhibits at the **Smithsonian National Museum of the African American History and Culture**. <https://www.searchablemuseum.com/>
- Watch **scientist and astronaut, Mae Jemison**, share her story about her dream to go to space. <https://ca.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/nvslos-sci-maejemison/wgbh-nova-secret-life-of-scientists-and-engineers-mae-jemison/#.WnCbsZM-dE4>



# SECONDARY LEVEL

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Use these materials to begin a conversation with secondary grade students about the experiences and accomplishments of Black people and how they have contributed to the culture and history of our country.

## ESSENTIAL QUESTION

What are the experiences and enduring contributions of Black men and women to the culture and history of the United States?



## EXPLORE

- Watch one or more of these **short videos that celebrate a long tradition of black activists, icons, and entertainers.** [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLu4Zo9fB5MNczNGaRc86Fx\\_ePVrXMgEZ2](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLu4Zo9fB5MNczNGaRc86Fx_ePVrXMgEZ2)
- Listen to a TED Talk about **African-American social dances** and how they keep cultural traditions alive and continue to influence dance today. [https://www.ted.com/talks/camille\\_a\\_brown\\_a\\_visual\\_history\\_of\\_social\\_dance\\_in\\_25\\_moves?referrer=playlist-10\\_great\\_talks\\_to\\_celebrate\\_bl&language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/camille_a_brown_a_visual_history_of_social_dance_in_25_moves?referrer=playlist-10_great_talks_to_celebrate_bl&language=en)
- Read about **Elizabeth Jennings and her historic stand against segregation** in 19th-century New York, which occurred long before the famous bus boycott in 1955. <https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/first-freedom-rider>
- Listen to and read an article celebrating **the life and accomplishments of Representative John Lewis**, from NPR Obituaries. <https://www.npr.org/2020/07/19/890796423/civil-rights-leader-john-lewis-never-gave-up-or-gave-in>



## EXPLAIN

- Based on these resources above, share what you have learned about the experiences, accomplishments and contributions of Black people to the history of our country.
- As you explored the resources, which Black figures, groups, and events would you identify as being relevant to our country's pursuit of social justice and civil rights? (*Social Justice Standard JU.9-12.15*)



## ENGAGE FURTHER

- Explore virtual exhibits at the **Smithsonian National Museum of the African American History and Culture.** <https://www.searchablemuseum.com/>
- Watch a TV news segment about **Step Afrika!, the first company dedicated to stepping**, a traditional form of dance. <https://youtu.be/YILTa6VLY0o>
- **Experience Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech** by exploring multimedia images and listening to movement activists. <https://freedomring.stanford.edu/?view=Speech>



