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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Unit Study Overview

UNIT OBJECTIVES

- Explore the impact of the Civil Rights Movement and its relevance today.
- Understand the contributions of Black leaders, inventors, and changemakers in history.
- Celebrate the cultural contributions of Black artists, musicians, and writers.

KEY CONCEPTS

- Key figures in Black history such as Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, and Harriet Tubman.
- The history and significance of Black History Month.
- Cultural contributions in music, literature, art, and beyond.
- The struggle for civil rights and social justice.

TIMELINE/SCHEDULE

- [] **Week 1:** Introduction to Black History Month and its significance. Begin research projects.
- [] **Week 2:** Learn about key Civil Rights events; work on timelines.
- [] **Week 3:** Music, poetry, and culture studies; begin creative projects.
- [] **Week 4:** Present research projects and creative works; reflection essays.

EXTENSIONS & ADAPTATIONS

Extension for Advanced Learners: Investigate global Black history and contributions outside the U.S., such as Nelson Mandela or the Haitian Revolution.

Adaptations: Offer biographies or documentaries with varying complexity for different reading levels.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

- [] **Biography Research Project:** Students choose a notable Black historical figure to research and present on their contributions.
- [] **Civil Rights Timeline:** Create a timeline of significant events in the Civil Rights Movement, such as the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the March on Washington.
- [] **Music & Poetry Study:** Explore the influence of Black musicians (e.g., jazz, blues, hip-hop) and writers (e.g., Langston Hughes) on American culture. Students can write their own poem or song inspired by the themes of equality and justice.

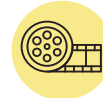
RECOMMENDED RESOURCES



Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by Doreen Rappaport

Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race by Margot Lee Shetterly

The Autobiography of Malcolm X by Malcolm X and Alex Haley



Selma (PG-13)

Hidden Figures (PG)

Eyes on the Prize (PBS Documentary)



Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture: <https://nmaahc.si.edu/>

ASSESSMENT METHODS

- [] **Presentation:** Students present their research on a historical figure.
- [] **Reflection Essay:** Write a short essay on how the Civil Rights Movement impacts their lives today.
- [] **Creative Project:** Students create an original poem, song, or artwork inspired by Black history or culture.

REFLECTION PROMPTS

1. What was the most surprising thing you learned about Black history this month?
2. How do the struggles and triumphs of historical figures influence us today?
3. In what ways can you contribute to promoting equality and justice?