



Black History Month

Each February, **Black History Month** honors the vital role African Americans have played throughout the nation's history, as well as their contributions to America's cultural and political life.

Originally established as Negro History Week in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, a noted African American author and scholar, this event evolved into the establishment of February as "Black History Month" in 1976. This commemoration also has been referred to as "African American History Month." Both names are currently in use.

Background on African Americans

About the USA > U.S. Society > African Americans

in English: <http://usa.usembassy.de/society-blacks.htm>

in German: <http://usa.usembassy.de/gesellschaft-blacks.htm>

Developed by the U.S. Mission to Germany, this comprehensive and extensive site on African Americans offers an introductory essay in either English or German and links to original documents, background information, statistics, electronic texts, speeches, classroom resources, etc.

The African American Mosaic. A Library of Congress Resource Guide for the Study of Black History and Culture

<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/african/intro.html>

The exhibit covers only four areas --Colonization, Abolition, Migrations, and the WPA-- of the many covered by the Mosaic. These topics were selected not only because they illustrate well the depth, breadth, and richness of the Library's black history collections, but also because of the significant and interesting interplay among them.

African American World, by PBS

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/aaworld/index.html>

A PBS Guide to African American History & Culture. Covers the courage and talent that shaped the African American experience. Includes a timeline, resources, a reference room, special resources for kids and for the classroom.

Black History Month

<http://www.infoplease.com/spot/bhm1.html>

Infoplease.com celebrates Black History Month with a collection of features, biographies of notable African Americans, a Civil Rights Timeline, quizzes, and a crossword puzzle.

Encyclopedia Britannica's Guide to Black History

<http://www.britannica.com/blackhistory>

Major features include a timeline of important events, brief biographies of famous African Americans, articles on events and institutions in Black History, a study guide for teachers and students, film clips and audio recordings.



Facts for Features: Black History Month 2011

PDF: http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/pdf/cb11ff-01_black.pdf

HTML: http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/cb11ff_01.html

This publication outlines statistical background drawn from the Census Bureau's demographic and economic subject areas.

Free at Last – The U.S. Civil Rights Movement

<http://www.america.gov/publications/books-content/free-at-last.html>

This book recounts how African-American slaves and their descendants struggled to win — both in law and in practice — the civil rights enjoyed by other Americans.

Gale - Black History Month free resource site

http://gale.cengage.com/free_resources/bhm/index.htm

This site directs students and researchers to Thomson Gale's free resources dedicated to Black History Month. Also included are activities, biographies, links, a quiz, and a timeline.

History Channel – Black History Month

<http://www.history.com/minisites/blackhistory/>

An excellent website that contains the history of the civil rights struggle, information on African American icons, video clips, speeches, maps, etc.

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National Park Service: African American History Month 2011

<http://www.nps.gov/history/NR/feature/afam/>

As part of the celebration, this site showcases historic properties listed in the National Register, National Register publications, and National Park units commemorating the events and people, the designs and achievements that help illustrate African Americans' contributions to American history.

Teacher Resources

African-American History Month

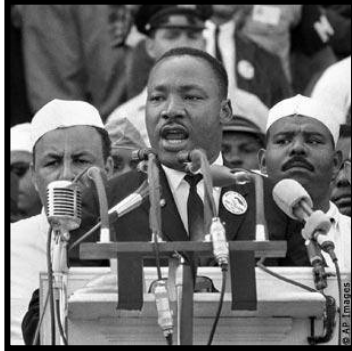
<http://www.africanamericanhistorymonth.gov/>

This is an extensive archive of audio and video material, primary sources, a virtual art gallery, time lines, biographies, and historic information on the broad topic of African-American history. In the "For Teachers" section you will find ready-to-go lesson plans on general and specialized topics with a vast number of student-friendly and engaging activities.

Black History Month, by Education World:

http://www.educationworld.com/a_special/black_history.shtml

Lessons for teaching about the history and culture of African Americans.



Celebrate Black History Month. The Learning Network – Teaching and Learning with the New York Times

<http://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/02/01/celebrate-black-history-month/>

In recognition of Black History Month, this special collection of New York Times and Learning Network materials has been developed for teaching and learning about African-American history.

Civil Rights Digital Library

<http://crdl.usg.edu/?Welcome&Welcome>

Website provides teachers with detailed lesson plans, audio and visual material, primary sources, biographical excerpts of civil rights leaders, work sheets, slide shows, and study guides.

Federal Education Resources

http://www.free.ed.gov/subjects.cfm?subject_id=116

Under the Federal Resources for Educational Excellence Initiative, this website provides teachers with a multitude of primary sources, historic overviews, pictures, posters, and specific event information on African-American struggles from slavery until the 1960s. Also available are portraits of extraordinary African-American artists, professionals, and civil rights leaders.

Biographies

Voices from the Days of Slavery American Memory – part of the Library of Congress *American Memory* site

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/voices/>

This is a collection of interviews conducted with former slaves between 1932 and 1975. The audio material provides detailed African-American experiences during the time of slavery. Additionally, the interviews allow students to hear unique 'black dialects' that were once common in the South. Transcripts of all interviews are available.

Beyond Dr. King: More Stories of African-American Achievement

Profiles of less-prominent African American heroes. Living Book Format

http://www.america.gov/notable_african_americans.html

One African American's Experience Living in Texas in the 50s, 60s, and 70s:

Essay by Charles H. Bolden

http://monterrey.usconsulate.gov/pd_cul_bolden.html

Rosa Parks (Lesson Plans and Guide to Materials)

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/rosaparks/rosaparks.html>

Website features extensive material collection on "the mother of the Civil Rights Movement", including essays, pictures, and links to external websites.



Link Lists

70 Useful Links for Celebrating Black History Month

<http://www.bachelorsdegreeonline.com/blog/2011/70-useful-links-for-celebrating-black-history-month/>

Awesome Library

http://www.awesomelibrary.org/Classroom/Social_Studies/Multicultural/African_American.html

Yahoo:

http://dir.yahoo.com/Regional/Countries/United_States/Society_and_Culture/Cultures_and_Groups/Cultures/American_United_States/African_American/History/