

Memo

Intradistrict

To: Board members, Rick Chandler

From: Gene Moore, superintendent

Through: Black History Month activities

Subject:

Date: February 17, 2015

This month is devoted district-wide to the study of local, national and international black achievers. Schools have hundreds of activities planned to celebrate the lives of those individuals. Here's a sampling of events planned at our schools.

A.R. Rucker Middle

- **Jennifer Jaillette's classes**
 - Students will view *The Ernest Green Story & I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* two Fridays in February.
 - Science enrichment will look at African-American inventors.
 - ELA students will read *A Raisin in the Sun*.
- **School-wide program in the gym Feb. 25 at 9 a.m.**
 - Lancaster High head football coach Bobby Collins will speak.
 - Music will be provided by 8th-grade chorus students.
 - Poems will be read by 6th- and 7th-grade students.
 - Musical selections performed by Derica Wise and Jiniqua Hood.
- **LaToya Benjamin's class**
 - Students will work in stations related to African-American scientists.
- **Cindi Wallace's classes**
 - Students are reading *A Raisin in the Sun* (First African-American Broadway play).
- **Brooke Faris' elective math and ELA (resource) classes**
 - Students will do reading-comprehension activities that involve influential African Americans in history.
 - For example, last week her classes read *Walking Tall*, which talks about the influences Ruby Bridges had on civil rights and desegregation.
- **Palmer Hudson's classes**
 - Students will start next week doing warm-up bios of African-American historical figures who are not studied as heavily in elementary and middle school (Joe Louis, Gwendolyn Brooks, Benjamin Banneker, James Lafayette and others).

- **Tisha Simmons' classes**

- Students are studying Africa and its kingdoms, incorporating more information about key figures in Africa, to help students develop a better appreciation for the accomplishments of Africans to the world before the transatlantic slave trade began.
- In ELA, classes will focus on little known facts in African-American history.

Andrew Jackson High

- **Schoolwide**

- During morning announcements each day, students will read facts and ask trivia questions about Black History Month and read a famous African-American quote.

Andrew Jackson Middle

Black History Month Activities In Keyboarding

- **6th graders**

- Students will do an internet-search activity to learn about the history of Black History Month.
 - » Students will also do a *Famous First* vocabulary sheet.
 - » The internet search and sheet will be 10 questions.
- Then two students will partner and research a famous African-American inventor they're assigned.
 - » After finding their information, they will create a photo document in Microsoft Word displaying the inventor name, picture and invention.
 - » They will present their work to the class and display their work in the hallway under the label Famous African American inventors.

- **7th Graders**

- Students will do an internet search activity to learn about the history of Black History Month.
 - » The students will look up a famous African American, find several key facts about them and share it with the class.
 - » Students will type their work on Microsoft Word.
 - » They will also make a photo document of their famous African Americans to display on the school hallway wall, which will be labeled *Famous African Americans*.

- **8th Graders**

- Students will do an internet search activity to learn about the history of Black History Month.
- Then the students will get into groups of two or three.
 - » After they get into their groups, the teachers will give each group a historic black college or university to research.
 - » Each group will create a power point about their HBCU.
 - » Students will receive a series of questions that they must answer in their PowerPoint.
 - » Students will share their PowerPoint with the class for a test grade.
 - » The students will also search for famous African Americans that attend HBCU's and display the results by creating a photo document with the person's name, picture and name of the school they attended.
 - » Their work will be displayed in the hallway under the label *Guess Who went to a HBCU*.

- **School-wide activities**

- **Feb. 2** – During morning announcements, students read history and facts about Black History Month.
- **Feb. 3-27** – Each day during morning announcements, one student council member read a famous African-American quote.
- **Feb. 9-13** – Each day during morning announcements, a student read a poem written by an African American.
- **Feb. 16-20** – *Black History Month Trivia* – Each day during morning announcements, students will ask trivia questions, and the first two students with the right answer in each homeroom will win prizes.
- **Feb. 26** – *Black History Month Career Fair*
 - » Students will get a chance to listen to successful African Americans talk about their keys to success.
 - » The speakers will also stress the importance of having a good attitude, good character and an education.
 - » Classes will rotate, with each speaker having 15-20 minutes with each class.
 - » This schedule will allow the students to see and hear all the speakers.
- **Feb. 27** – *Black History Program*
 - » Students will get a chance to express their thanks to the achievements and hardship of African Americans over the years through song, dance and poetry.
 - » The 7th & 8th grade *Old Hickory Singers* and the 8th grade band will perform music selections by.
 - » The 6th, 7th, & 8th dance focus groups, along with the AJHS step team, will perform.
 - » Our guest speaker will be Deborah Cureton.

Brooklyn Springs

- **Kindergarten**

- Students will watch *Martin's Big Words* and respond in their journals to the prompt, "What would your dream be?"
- Students will complete the *Martin Luther King Jr. Weekly Reader*.
- Students will read stories that feature famous African Americans and respond to these stories in their journals.
- Activities will include the friendship bus, fairness exercises and an equality poem.

- **2nd grade**

- Students will work in the library to research famous African Americans and their accomplishments/contributions.
- Students will have an African-American individual to research.
- The project is a two-week activity (each class goes to the library once for two weeks).
- The students will use the researched information to do posters, and they will use the information from the research and guide to make a book of famous Black Americans.

- **3rd Grade**

- Each third-grade student will research one historical African-American figure.

- The students will prepare a written report on their persons as well as “Biography” posters.
- The students will host a wax museum March 3 for Brooklyn Springs students.
- At 5 p.m. March 3 during Third Grade Family Night, students will present our wax museum to our families.
- **4th Grade**
 - Students will watch a video and do a newspaper reading (*Weekly Reader*) on the impact the American Revolution had on African Americans.
- **Veronica Shannon’s class**
 - Students will read and discuss *Sweet Clara* and the *Freedom Quilt* (paper quilt activity)
 - Students will write a Heritage Acrostic poem and do remembrance writings on a noted leader from black history.
 - Students will listen to a story telling presentation from Ramona Pate.

Buford Elementary

- **Kindergarten**
 - Students will read Martin Luther King Jr.’s *I Have a Dream* and poems, look at facts from *United Streaming on Discovery Education* and sing songs about King.
 - Students will read story *Rosa Parks* on Brain Pop Jr. and discuss it.
 - Students will read about George Washington Carver’s inventions, enjoy a snack of peanut butter and sing *Peanut Butter*.
 - Students will read *Henry’s Freedom* about Henry “Box” Brown, look at photographs of Brown in a box and discuss and write/draw what it would be like to be shipped somewhere in a box.
 - Students will visit *Brain Pop, Jr.* on the internet to listen to a story of Harriet Tubman’s biography, play games online and listen to a biography on Discovery Education.
 - Students will visit *Brain Pop, Jr.* on the internet to listen to Frederick Douglas’s biography and play games online.
 - Students will make a traffic light to celebrate Garrett Morgan’s invention of the traffic light.
 - Students will read short biographies and color pictures of Daniel Hale Williams, George Washington Carver and Mae Jemison.
- **First Grade**
 - Students will watch a PowerPoint presentation introducing notable African Americans in our country’s history.
 - Students will make a class list of famous African Americans.
 - Students will select one person to do an informative writing on.
 - Students will practice typing about the person chosen in tech lab.
- **Second Grade**
 - Teachers will read books on famous African Americans.
 - Students will write Black History reports during writing time.
 - Students will research Black History for reports.
 - Students will watch Black History videos and respond.
 - Black History books will be available during Daily 5 time.

- **Third grade**

- Students will read and discuss:
 - » *Follow the Drinking Gourd*
 - » *Henry's Freedom Box*
 - » Martin Luther King biographies
 - » *The Underground Railroad*
 - » *Slavery in S.C. Prior to the Civil War*

- **Fourth Grade**

- Students will cold read practice using a story on Rosa Parks.
- Students will learn characteristics of poetry using a poem on Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Students will do fluency practice using a *Reader's Theater* on Jackie Robinson.

- **Fifth grade**

- Students will do cold reads on famous African Americans.
- Students will make posters about famous African Americans.

Buford High

- The media center is displaying books that feature the art, music and culture of Black Americans.

Buford Middle

- **School-wide**

- Quotes, essays and author-focused book displays are located around the school.
- Trivia questions are also being asked during morning announcements.
- All students were able to participate in the Lancaster County *My Dream for the World* essay contest.
 - » The essays that were identified as school winners are displayed in the hallway.
 - » One of our students – Anna Grace Langley – was the district winner.

- **Classes and grade levels** are incorporating activities into their lessons this month including

- reading a play that focuses on Martin Luther King Jr.'s childhood and events that lead him to become a civil rights leader.
- completing a jigsaw activity with little-known facts about King's life and creating symbols to represent these little-known facts.
- using school iPads to research quotes by King, interpreting the meaning of the quotes and explaining how to apply the quote to their lives.
- learning about the famous mathematician, Benjamin Banneker, including his accomplishments in math, science and architecture.
- studying the Civil War, Reconstruction and the late 19th century South Carolina era, which lay the groundwork for the Civil Rights Movement.
- reading short biographies posted around the gym during instant activity time/warm ups. The

biographies are about female and male African-American athletes who made a mark on society. At the conclusion of class each day, students reflect on what they read.

- analyzing the writings of King as exemplar texts. Texts include *I Have a Dream* and *Letter from Birmingham Jail*.

Clinton Elementary

- **Feb. 28, 6 p.m.** – *The ABCs of Black History* music program in the school gym.
 - Students will use the letters of the alphabet to present a Black History fact.
 - The school chorus will perform.
- **Janice Payne & Catherine Sims’ Preschool Special Needs class**
 - Students will hear *The Color of Us* by Karen Kutz
 - Students will do book study & craft with hand prints in their skin tones
 - Topics will include diversity, colors, differences, Black Americans’ contributions to our History
- **Rebecca Benson, Danielle Coley, Patti Hyder’s kindergarten team**
 - During Black History month, students will focus on important African Americans and their impact on our society.
 - Students will learn about Martin Luther King Jr., President Barack Obama, Harriett Tubman, Rosa Parks and George Washington Carver.
- **Anna Foltz’s 4K**
 - Students will talk about famous African Americans in the stories they read, in extra activities and in support documents such as videos and news reports.
 - Students will focus on a specific heroes such as Rosa Parks, George Washington Carver and President Barack Obama.
 - Students will write about dreams they have when they discuss Martin Luther King Jr.
- **Hannah Morgan & Elizabeth Nelson’s Sped K-3**
 - People and changes they made
 - » Rosa Parks – Life story with read aloud
 - » George Washington Carver – PBJ Writing – first, next, then, last
 - » Ruby Bridges – Challenges Ruby faced – Writing *All About Ruby Bridges*
 - » Our colorful class writing and activity
 - » The US is better when we work together
 - » Vocab – Matching
 - Discrimination, racism, segregation
 - » Venn Diagram – then, how
 - » MLK- I have a dream – your dream
- **Jennifer McWatters, April Nelson & Beverly Stinson’s first-grade team**
 - First grade will study African Americans such as Martin Luther King Jr., Ruby Bridges, Rosa Parks, George Washington Carver and President Obama.
 - Student will compare these African-Americans leaders’ contributions to American Democracy through “How-to” writings.

- **Joyce Argo & Carla Poitier's second-grade team**
 - Students will study African Americans such as Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., Ruby Bridges, George Washington Carver, Harriett Tubman, and J. J. Clinton.
- **Jessica Jollie, Ana Propst & Wilson's third-grade team**
 - Students will read aloud writing of famous African Americans.
 - Students will do George Washington Carver project and read and write about his influences on our society.
 - Students will do read-alouds on Ruby Bridges.
 - Students will do non-fiction studies of African American inventors including Garrett Morgan, inventor of the traffic light.
- **Joyce Witherspoon's fourth-grade team**
 - Students will study famous African Americans during social studies and language arts.
 - Students will do shared reading and modeled reading using informational texts that focus on highlights accomplishments of famous African Americans.
 - Students will do *Readers Theater* highlighting Rosa Parks and Ruby Bridges.
- **Blake Mayhew's fourth grade team**
 - Students will study lessons on Martin Luther King, Jr.
- **Stover's fourth & fifth grade class**
 - SpEd fourth and fifth grade students will explore at least two African American figures by reading books.
 - Students will research African American leaders, including Bessie Smith, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Ruby Bridges.
 - Students went on a field trip Feb. 12 to visit the historically black college Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte.
- **Darrell Brunson and Katherine Perry's fifth-grade team**
 - Students will research African-American inventors and their inventions.
 - Students will visit a historically black college and university.
 - Students will study daily Black History facts.
- **Speech pathologists Eve Brooks, Pearlene Dinkins & Crystal Hammond**
 - The speech pathologists will incorporate a story regarding a famous African American in our language based activities.
 - Students will target answering W's (who, what, where, why, when) from the story.
- **Rosemary Young's chorus classes**
 - Grade levels will sing spirituals as well as learn about their purposes.
- **Brenda Jackson's art classes**
 - All grades will create visual art projects based on history, cultural and knowledge of African-American heritage.
- **Guidance counselor Wendy Hamilton**
 - Students will complete lessons on respecting similarities and differences among others.

Discovery School

- **Kindergarten - first grade**
 - Students will study Ruby Bridges with a comparison to ourselves and Ruby Bridges.
- **Grades 2-3**
 - Students will study African-American poetry, learning about the origins of the African Americans as slaves, about the Gullah language and about black scientists and leaders.
- **Grade 4-5**
 - Students will watch the Winthrop Integration video and complete Thinking Maps activities: <http://xserve.lcsd.k12.sc.us/LCSD/Web/Videos/FulfillingPromise.mp4>.

EAGLE Program

- Students will read *The Drinking Gourd* and study the lyrics to the song and their meanings.
- Students will read the story of Harriet Tubman with *Reader's Theater* and perform the script *Underground Railroad Codes*.
- Students will complete a survey on the racial makeup of Latin-American countries with excerpts of Henry Louis Gates, Jr.'s video depicting race relations in Cuba.

Erwin Elementary

- **PreK & Kindergarten students**
 - Students will read book selections about famous African Americans.
 - Students will watch *BrainPop Jr.* videos.
 - Students will complete crafts creating portraits of various African Americans.
 - Students will do Black History activities on websites like *Preschoolrainbow.org*.
 - Students will sing songs related to African-American history.
 - Students will learn about African-American leaders such as Jackie Robinson, Harriett Tubman, George Washington Carver, Garrett Morgan, Benjamin Banneker, Duke Ellington, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Barack Obama.
- **Grade 1**
 - Students will focus each week on famous Black Americans including Frederick Douglass, Mary McLeod Bethune, Condoleezza Rice, George Washington Carver, Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Jackie Robinson and Barack Obama.
 - Students watched a Martin Luther King Jr. movie and wrote stories about him.
 - Students will read books about famous Black Americans.
- **Grade 2**
 - Each day in February, students will study a historical African American during a language arts mini lesson and will read books, watch videos and writing about them.
- **Grade 3**
 - **As a part of the grade's biography unit**, students will read about famous African Americans and using timelines to identify important events in their lives.
 - Famous African-American students will read about include Jackie Robinson, Martin Luther King Jr., Harriet Tubman and Rosa Parks.

- **Grade 4**

- **Language arts**

- » Students will learn about the struggle of African American citizens through the books *Rosa*, *The Other Side*, *White Socks Only* and *Follow the Drinking Gourd* and the video *The Story of Rosa Parks*.
 - » Students will learn about them using the books and video listed above.
 - » Students will learn how to complete a triple Venn Diagram to compare and contrast the texts.
 - » Students will also take part in several Close Reading lessons, where they will explore the character of these historical figures to determine what character traits help to develop perseverance.

- **Social Studies**

- Students will read *The Drinking Gourd* and learn about how Harriett Tubman (and others who helped to run the Underground Railroad) served to help slaves escape to freedom, even at the risk of being killed.

- **Science**

- Students will research a famous African American scientist who made a historical contribution to the world of science.

- **Kathryn Jacobs & Amanda McGee's Grade 5 social studies classes**

- Students will study about segregation.
 - One famous African American students will read about is Booker T. Washington and his role in segregation.
 - Students will complete a research project in the computer lab about Washington's life.
 - Students will complete a biography research project based on a famous African American.
 - Students will read leveled reading passages about famous African Americans.
 - Students will discuss and complete activities in small group time.
 - Students will hear cool, fun trivia facts about African Americans each day, and usually followed by more detail and research (starts with the facts on the announcements)
 - Picture books about famous African Americans will be used for read-aloud time.

- **Jonathan Bradley & Kathryn Jacobs Grade 5 science classes**

- Students will study & research famous African-American scientist.

- **Diana Crump's Computer Lab I**

- Kindergarten-2 students will use the computer program *Brainpop Jr.* to view videos of famous African Americans.
 - Grades 3-5 students will use *Brainpop* to view famous African Americans.

- **Anne Marie Johnson's Computer Lab II**

- Grades 3-5 students will read a section of graphic novels including one section on African Americans on the computer program **Study Island**.

- **Guidance counselor Patricia McFadden**

- Grades 4-5 guidance classes will view the clips about black integration at Winthrop University, a site David Knight sent out several weeks ago.

- One of the ladies in the clip was a friend of Ms. McFaddin’s mom, so Ms. McFaddin will also talk about the Friendship Nine – nine men of Rock Hill.
- **Media center specialist Kay Watson –**
 - Kindergarten-2 students will have a story read to them about a famous African American. The stories for story time are *Ron’s Big Mission* by Rose Blue and Corinne J. Naden or *Touch the Sky Alice Coachman, Olympic High Jumper* by Ann Malaspina.
 - Grade 3 students will research the famous person they’re working on for a class report.
 - Grades 4-5 students will research a famous African American, finding facts about their person using web sites Biography in Context or Biography.com. The students will have a story read to them entitled *Fifty Cents and Dream Young Booker T. Washington* by Jabari Asim.
- **Sam Sinclair’s physical education classes**
 - Students will discuss famous African American athletes and their accomplishments ... past and present.
- **Catherine Todd’s art classes**
 - Students will listen to jazz music from musicians such as Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong as the students enter the art room.
 - Ms. Todd will read the book *I Live In Music* to students.
 - Students will see collages made by African-American artist Romare Bearden.
 - Students will draw lines on colored paper as they listen to the jazz music. The lines should show characteristics of the music.
 - After drawing, students will look thru magazines for images of people and things like musical instruments or sports equipment and will create a collage by cutting and gluing images on paper about people sharing their talents or celebrating with family in magazine images like Romare Bearden did in his collages.
- **Speech pathologists Tonya Harmon**
 - Students will use a ‘Celebrate Black History’ game board, a Black history/civil rights word search and coloring pages for George Washington Carver, Jackie Robinson, Rosa Parks, Sarah Breedlove Walker and Harriet Tubman.
 - Ms. Harmon uses the websites abcya.com (MLK word search), abcmouse.com (MLK puzzle), and PBSkids.org (Find the Face - matching game.)
- **Hearing therapist Angela Paul**
 - Students will use Ruby Bridges to work on listening comprehension and to find key words in the questions and story per IEP goals.
 - Since “critical elements in a message” and “hearing in background noise” are IEP goals for many of her students, students will complete two critical element craft activities through auditory alone – toilet tissue Martin Luther King Jr. and Unity Handprint-Dove.
 - Students will work independently on two reading comprehension passages – *What is Black History Month* and *The Underground Railroad: On to Freedom*.
 - Because auditory memory is a goal, students will work on auditory recall of five-word memory lists – Black History vocabulary words and Black History Multi-syllabic words.
- **Erica Sanders’ special education classes**
 - Students will use the story *Ruby Bridges* to find a character trait for Ruby Bridges.

- Students will discuss famous important African American people of Black History such as Martin Luther King Jr., Thurgood Marshall, Jesse Owens and Jackie Robinson.
- Students will learn about the life of George Washington Carver and answer facts and draw a picture of George Washington Carver.
- Students will complete a word search puzzle on Martin Luther King Jr.
- **Brittany Fowler’s resource classes**
 - During February, a famous African American will be spotlighted every week.
 - Students will watch a *Brain Pop* video and complete the activity and the quiz as an introduction.
 - Students will complete reading assignments that focus on comprehension skills.
 - Students will use what they have learned to complete a writing activity focused on their famous person.
 - The culture of jazz music will be incorporated during student writing times on Friday’s instead of classical music.
- **Kindergarten-2 grades**
 - Students will study George Washington Carver, Harriet Tubman and Rosa Parks
- **Grades 3-5**
 - Students will study Frederick Douglass, Maya Angelou and Jackie Robinson

Harrisburg Elementary

- **Kindergarten**
 - Kindergarten teachers will each create “Black History Month Buckets” for all kindergarteners to pass the buckets daily. The buckets will contain a book, a craft and a worksheet about famous Black Americans for each student.
 - Students will learn about seven famous people by the end of the month.
 - Teachers will read books about Black Americans in their classrooms.
- **Grade 2**
 - Students, as a part of their letter writing unit, will write a letter to a famous African American that made a significant impact.
 - Their letters will outline how the contributions of that individual helped their world today.
- **Media center specialist Michael Leroy**
 - Short biographies of famous African Americans will be read on the morning announcements at least three times throughout the week.
 - The announcements may be either
 - » a PowerPoint slide that introduces students to famous people, such as Mary McLeod Bethune
 - » a question for a grade level to answer
 - » a question for a grade level or two where students will be given a question to answer, with a representative from each homeroom bringing the answer to the media center. The homeroom with the correct answer will earn a prize.
 - » Rules for the homeroom announcement contest
 - o This is STUDENT LED. There is minimal help from the teacher.

- o No running in the hallways. If your representative is caught running in the hallways, they are disqualified.
- o No Google or Wikipedia or Internet Search Engines
- o Teachers should let students follow the path to the right answer.
- o Only one representative is allowed to bring the answer to the media center.
- o Prizes will vary – maybe a bag of candy, ice cream, etc,
- o Most answers will start with www.scdiscus.org.

Heath Springs Elementary

- **Art** – Students are making African masks.
- **Music**
 - Students are learning African-American spirituals.
 - Students are learning about the Harlem Renaissance.
 - Students are learning about the African-American influence on jazz music.
- **Media Center**
 - The media center has a display of African-American titles.
 - A banner about Martin Luther King Jr. that encourages everyone to be kind, gentle, and respectful is hanging in the library.
- **Kindergarten – 2** – Students are reading African American Biographies that include picture books.
- **Grade 3** – Students are making silhouettes of slavery with written descriptions.
- **Grade 4**
 - Students are reading and researching a famous African-American.
 - The information will be used to create a *Cereal Box Biography*.
- **Grade 5** – Students are portraying famous African-Americans through a wax museum.

Indian Land Elementary

Teachers will use the resources below for activities.

- **Jazz Clouds**
 - Students can pay homage to great African-American jazz musicians, such as Louis Armstrong, Dizzy Gillespie and Duke Ellington.
 - Students can listen to the music of jazz musicians and free-write phrases to describe how the music makes them feel.
 - Students can type the words into [wordle.net](http://www.wordle.net) to make a colorful “word cloud” that represents jazz music. <http://www.wordle.net/>
- **Musical Harlem**
 - Students can listen to jazz audio clips to learn to identify styles and musicians associated with the Harlem Renaissance. http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/educators/lessons/grade-3-4/Musical_Harlem.aspx
- **Smithsonian Jazz Mixer**
 - Students can explore a jazz timeline, world map, and a virtual mixer that lets them listen and observe the elements of jazz. <http://www.folkways.si.edu/jazz-education-web-site/music/smithsonian>

- **Underground Railroad Interactive Trip**
 - Students can take an interactive trip on the Underground Railroad.
 - Students can read Fannie Moore’s personal story and answer the questions about what it might have been like to be in her shoes.
 - Students can write letters using the secret code of the escaped slaves. http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/bhistory/underground_railroad/ and http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/bhistory/underground_railroad/children.htm
- **The Underground Railroad**
 - Students can make decisions as they follow Harriet Tubman and escape from a slave owner in this online interactive. http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/media/underground-railroad-journey-freedom/?ar_a=1
- **Negro Leagues Baseball Museum** – <http://coe.k-state.edu/annex/nlbemuseum/history/teams.html>
- **Langston Hughes Poetry**
 - Students can learn how Langston Hughes expressed his dreams through poetry. http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/dailyp/dailyp/dailyp051.shtml
- **Poetry**
 - Students can read poems to celebrate Black History Month. <http://www.poetryfoundation.org/black-history-month/>
- **African Folk Tales** – <https://www.teachervision.com/folk-tales/activity/3721.html>
- **Creating a Kente Cloth** – <https://www.teachervision.com/tv/printables/tv00105s1.pdf>
- **Create Story Quilts**
 - The women of Gee’s Bend, Alabama, created quilts that told stories. Students can create quilted squares that, when put together, tell a classroom narrative. <http://www.auburn.edu/academic/other/geesbend/explore/catalog/slideshow/>
- **Wax Museum**
 - Students can study an African-American historical figure, then dress up as their subject, adding an identifying name tag.
 - Students can invite visitors to their “wax museum” to press imaginary buttons and bring the statues to life!
- **Black History Month Read-Alouds**
 - *The School is Not White* - **Doreen Rappaport**
 - *Anansi the Spider* - **Gerald McDermott**
 - *A Chair for My Mother* - **Vera Williams**
 - *The Spider Weaver: A Legend of Kente Cloth*
 - *Amazing Grace* - **Mary Hoffman**
 - *Margaret Musgrove*
 - *Bigmama’s* - **Donald Crews**
 - *Sundiata* - **David Wisniewski**
 - *Bill Pickett: Rodeo-Ridin’ Cowboy* - **Andrea Pinkney**

- *Zomo the Rabbit* - **Gerald McDermott**
- *Drylongso* - **Virginia Hamilton**
- *A Story a Story* - **Gail E. Haley**
- *Martin's Big Words* - **Doreen Rappaport**
- *Anansi and the Magic Stick* - **Eric Kimmel**
- *Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt* - **Deborah Hopkinson**
- *The Cow-Tail Switch, and Other West African tales*
- *Through My Eyes* - **Ruby Bridges**
- *Stories* - **Harold Courlander**
- *Follow the Drinking Gourd* - **Jeanette Winter**
- *Anansi Goes Fishing* - **Janet Stevens**
- *March On* - **Christine King Farris**
- *Anansi and the Talking Melon* - **Eric Kimmel**
- *Grandmama's Pride* - **Becky Birtha**
- *Boycott Blues: How Rosa Parks Inspired a Nation* - **Andrea Davis Pinkney**
- *Rosa* - **Nikki Giovanni**

Indian Land High

- **School-wide objective** – Encourage knowledge of African-American studies to students.
 - **Every morning** during announcements, students will be asked a little known Black History fact. The first student who comes to Daphne Lathan's room after first block with the correct answer will receive a prize.
 - Each Friday during lunches
 - » **Matching** – Students will match African-American inventors and idols to their historic achievement.
 - » **Charades** – To start, students will place the cards face down in the middle of the table. Someone will start a timer as the first player picks up a card without looking. The player will hold the card to their forehead while asking questions such as "Is my person a singer? A dancer? An inventor?" Student who guesses the person before time runs out gets a point. Keep score as players rotate around the table. The winner from each table will get a piece of candy
 - » **Sing a Song** – Students will divide into groups. The referee will pick a card with a famous singer and song on the card. The first group to buzz in and sing the song correctly will gain the point. If a team cannot answer, the other team may steal. The first team to reach 5 points wins.
 - » **Pictionary** – Students will be put on teams and are to pick up a card. A team member will draw the picture of the object on the card, while the rest of the team tries to guess. The first team with 3 points will win.

Indian Land Middle

- **In classes around the school**
 - Students will regularly discuss issues of Civil Rights. Many times, the issue comes up in CNN Student News, as do excerpts on famous African Americans. Students have discussed King, the Rock Hill Nine and several other topics so far.

- Students will discuss African-American mathematicians during our warm-up.
- Social studies students will talk about famous African Americans during warm-ups.
- Students will watch a video during Club Time about the achievements of African Americans.
- Students will look at famous African Americans daily and their contributions to society. This study will be done on the weeks that we do not have research.
 - » Students will research on the Tuskegee Airman.
 - » Students will read Martin Luther King Jr. speech.
 - » Students will talk about prejudice and bias.
- Students have covered Martin Luther King, Jr. and will do follow-up activities this week.
- Students completed magazine projects on the lives of famous African Americans and displayed the projects on the bulletin board in the main hallway. Students are also reading and doing activities with *Up From Slavery*, the autobiography of Booker T. Washington.
- Students in both grade levels have read the novel, *Mississippi Trial, 1955*.
- Honors students have read the novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, studying the harsh treatment and lack of rights of African Americans.
- Students have discussed Civil Rights.
- Students have read about the hardships and fighting spirit of both Harriett Tubman and Fredrick Douglass with our grade level students.
- Students will incorporate famous/notable African Americans into warm-ups (ex: Jackie Robinson, Jesse Owens) – fraction, decimal, percent conversions, comparisons.
- Students are learning about the Civil Rights Movement – Friendship Nine, Children’s Crusades, etc. Kimberly Johnson, an author & a student’s aunt, may present on her children’s book and play she wrote about the Friendship Nine in Rock Hill.
- Students will have a lesson on the impact of the media on the African-American civil rights movement.
- **Art**
 - Students will talk about African-American artists who are from South Carolina.
- **Computer programming**
 - Students will feature programmer/software inventor John Henry Thompson, IBM computer scientist Mark Dean and Starter League founders Mike McGee and Neil Stem.
- **Media center**
 - An exhibit with books about black history and leaders is on display.
- **Music**
 - Students are learning two spirituals.
- **STEM**
 - Students will research African-American inventors and their contributions to society.

Kershaw Elementary

- **School-wide**
 - On our morning news, some prominent African-American bio clips were featured – Martin Luther King, George Washington Carver, etc.

- **PreK**
 - Students have worked on a Martin Luther King coloring project in which they discussed the life of Martin Luther King and his legacy.
 - Students have worked on a dove painting similar to a painting that was done for Martin Luther King’s birthday as one of the student’s birthdays falls on Martin Luther King’s birthday.
- **Kindergarten**
 - Students read *Scholastic Weekly Reader* that featured Black History Month articles.
 - Students were shown a Scholastic News video.
 - Students worked on Martin Luther King portraits and described their own dreams.
 - Students read informational texts and worked on writing their dreams.
 - Students read *Martin’s Big Words* and *My Big Brother Martin* in class.
- **Grade 1**
 - Students read *Scholastic Weekly Reader*.
 - Students watched a video on Martin Luther King.
 - Students read books about Black History Month and famous black Americans.
 - Students tuned into the morning news to watch the Black History Month Bios.
- **Grade 2**
 - Students studied the life of Martin Luther King and worked on a *Goals and Dreams* writing.
- **Grade 3**
 - Students worked on a collaborative research project with school media specialist.
 - Students watched several *Brain Pop* videos in social studies.
- **Grade 4**
 - Students worked on a collaborative research project with school media specialist.
 - Students tuned in to the morning news to watch the Bios.
 - Students read several books related to Black History Month.
- **Grade 5**
 - Students did a Harlem Renaissance Poetry Study.
 - Students recited the *Mother and Son* poem in class.
 - Students listened to jazz music in class.
 - Students worked on a research project with school media specialist.
 - Students’ projects focused on famous African-American women.
- **Music**
 - Students studied famous African-American music, jazz, and other historically black music genres.
- **Physical education**
 - Students listened to music from African-American artists while students jumped rope, bowled and danced.
- **21st Century After School Program**
 - Students worked on a *ABC’s of Black History Month Program*, where parents will come in to hear their child speak on a famous historical/or current Black American who has positively impacted America.

Lancaster High

- Assemblies held throughout the month featuring guest speakers, choirs and a Gullah presentation.
- Morning announcements will highlight “Great Moments in Black History.”
- Door decorating contest held all month-long.
- Black history drama – Feb. 27 at 9:30 a.m.
- Soul food luncheon for faculty and staff – Feb. 27

McDonald Green Elementary

- **School-wide**
 - **Month-long focus** on immersing students into history and the arts. Since McDonald Green is an ABC (Arts in Basic Curriculum) Project Site and the recipient of the Distinguished Arts Program (DAP) grant, all the activities will be arts-inclusive.
 - **Announcements**
 - » Fourth and fifth grade Student Council Representatives will begin and end the week with a “Historical Tidbit.”
 - » Students will read information covering the overall historical impact of art, music, dance and science throughout African-American culture.
 - **During the first week of Black History Month**, the focus will be on art.
 - » Each grade level will study an African-American artist, with each student creating a piece of art that represents his/her work.
 - » Teachers will provide students with biographical information and a “fast fact” each day that highlights the types of mediums the individual is known to use.
 - » The finalized art projects will be on display in the hallways.
 - **During the second week**, the focus is on music.
 - » Each class will select a famous African-American musician to study.
 - » Teachers will give a “fast fact” each morning on the musician’s style of music and information that details the individual’s life.
 - » Students will listen to their musician’s music or genre of music during independent work time.
 - **During the third week**, the focus will be on movement and dance.
 - » Each class will study an African-American male/female in the dance industry.
 - » During each grade level’s recess time, each class will “put a spin” on recess by dancing and imitating the movements/choreography of the dancer.
 - » Teachers will also continue to provide students with a daily “fast fact” about the dancer.
 - **During the final week**, the focus will be on science.
 - » Each class will select an African-American scientist tied directly to grade-level science standards.
 - » Students will learn about the individual’s contributions and do a science experiment/activity that relates to his/her field of study.
 - » On February 25, the Bright Star Theater company will perform. During their performance, Bright Star will bring to life in a fun and interactive way the biographical information of well-known historical figures Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr.

- **Academic Enrichment**
 - Teachers will incorporate Black History Month and the arts into their classrooms.
- **Physical education**
 - Students will study people related to the Civil Rights movement.
- **Music**
 - Students will learn about African-American composers and musicians.
- **Science lab**
 - Students will study scientists.
- **Art**
 - Students will focus on famous African-American artists.
- **Library time**
 - Students will study famous authors/illustrators.
- **Computer lab**
 - Students will study African-Americans whose contributions have made an impact in the field of technology.
- **Each event** was planned and organized by the members of MGE's Cultural Awareness Committee.

North Elementary

- **Kindergarten**
 - Students will be listening to students' family projects about famous black Americans and will follow up through writing and coloring pictures.
- **First Grade**
 - Students will read from biographies and watch videos about famous Black Americans such as Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks throughout the month of February.
 - Students will summarize what they learn through a writing project at the end of the month.
- **Second Grade**
 - Students will research and write about famous black Americans, including Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr., Harriet Tubman and George Washington Carver.
 - Storytellers will come in and share African stories with the students.
- **Third Grade**
 - Students will study the Gullah culture in social studies.
 - Students will learn about Gullah music, stories, art forms, the techniques of cooking and ethnic foods of our state.
 - Students will also read African folk tales.
 - Students will study the institution of slavery and how African slaves made significant contributions to the culture of South Carolina.

- **Fourth Grade**

- Students studying Colonial America and reading stories about African-American history, including music and slavery.
- Students will read the biographies of Crispus Attucks, Peter Salem and other slaves during colonial times.
- Pinky Harris will present information to students on African-American culture.

- **Fifth Grade**

- Students will research famous black Americans and will participate in a “Wax Museum.”
 - » Students will dress as the person they have researched.
 - » The museums will be staged in locations throughout the school for other grade levels to visit.

- **Music**

- Students will begin a unit on jazz and will study the Harlem Renaissance.
- Songs from the website Gullah Net will be used as examples of African American call-and-response, blues, ring shout and code songs.

- **Art**

- Students have done African-inspired art projects.
- Kindergarteners and students from our exceptional classes have made African women.
- First graders made African silhouette landscapes. All of the students have made African inspired masks.
- Second graders made African Kente’ cloth by weaving paper.

- **Media**

- Students will be introduced to literature about African Americans, including *Back of the Bus* about Rosa Parks, *Testing the Ice* about Jackie Robinson, *The Hallelujah* flight, about the first African Americans to fly across the United States – James Banning Thomas Allen.

South Middle

- **Grade 6**

- Language arts Team 2 – students will research an important African American in history and complete a research project on that person.
- Social studies will explore the life and works of historical African Americans.
 - » They will represent their explorations by tracing their feet and finding items to represent their famous person from their Chrombeooks, magazine and newspapers and will paste these items inside the foot.
 - » Their work will be displayed as *Leaving Their Mark*.

- **Grade 7**

- Language arts classes will begin each class reading *Roll of Thunder*, *Hear My Cry* and *Bud, Not Buddy*.
 - » Students will concentrate on the Great Depression and how African Americans were affected by that event in history.
 - » Students will also conduct research on jazz musicians and the author, Mildred Taylor.

- Science students will research famous African Americans who significantly contributed to the world of science.
 - » Students will also create mini presentations to display their work.
- **Grade 8**
 - Language arts classes discuss a Black History fact each day.
 - Social studies students on Team 5 will do daily black history profiles.
- **Jennifer Hardin’s TMD class**
 - Students will engage in the *A, B, C’s of Black History* each morning.
- **Iris Curry’s TMD class**
 - Students will do activities throughout the month to explore and honor famous African Americans, including crafts, art and science projects and PowerPoints.
- **Courtney McCrea’s LD-SC class**
 - Students will read library books related to important persons and stories from Black History.
 - Students will listen to readings from *Voices of Carolina Slave Children* by Nancy Rhyne.
 - Students will read *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*.
- **Exploratory classes**
 - **Art**
 - » Students will create paintings of famous African American quotes.
 - » The paintings will be displayed around the school.
 - **Chorus**
 - » Students will study the origins of African American Spirituals with singing examples to be performed.
 - **Computer**
 - » Students will research a notable African-American and prepare an in-class speech including 15-20 facts about the person.
 - » Students will also design their own African-American stamp.
 - **Band**
 - Students are reading the book *Taking Flight* by Michaela DePrince aloud in class each day and discussing the book.
 - **Resource**
 - Students will concentrate their writings around Black History Month.
- **School-wide activities**
 - **Black history trivia** will be shared with students on WSMS.
 - **Video segments** about famous African Americans and other inspirational video clips will be shared on WSMS throughout the month.
 - **Faculty and staff** will be treated to a Soul Food Lunch on Feb. 26.
 - **Students will create** their own poem centering around perseverance.
 - » Winners will be chosen from each team.
 - » Poems will be read on WSMS, and the student body will vote for the winning poem.
 - » The winner will read his/her poem during the Black History program Feb. 26.

- **All minority faculty and staff members** will be highlighted on WSMS. They will share a little about their educational background and how they reached their goals in life.
- **A school-wide assembly program** will be held Feb. 26 at 2:40 p.m., featuring the chorus and South Middle science teacher and Lancaster High girls' basketball coach Ronnie Robinson.
- **Exhibits on local, state and national well-known African Americans** will be on display near the gym area.
- **Students will be able to play Kahoot on their Chromebooks**, a 20-question quiz focusing on Black History in South Carolina.

Southside Early Childhood Center

- **Schoolwide**

- Students will make a Jackie Robinson Dodgers jersey.
- Students will have a “hair salon” center for a day – discuss Madame C.J. Walker, who invented hair products.
- Students will make a collage of multicultural children’s faces.
- Students will have a laundry center – discuss Sarah Boone, who invented the ironing board, and George Sampson, who invented the clothes dryer.
- Students will play *Red Light – Green Light* at recess – discuss Garrett Morgan, who invented the traffic light.
- Students will make a traffic light snack out of graham crackers, yogurt, and red, yellow and green M&M’s.
- Students will make peanut butter – discuss George Washington Carver, who discovered peanuts.
- Students will sprout peanuts in a baggie.
- Students will sing Ella Jenkins’ song *Did You Feed My Cow?*
- Students will take part in an astronaut activity and discuss Mae Jemison, who was the first black woman in space.
- Students will watch an Ella Fitzgerald video.
- Students will listen to books
 - » *Amazing Grace*
 - » *The Snowy Day*
 - » *Dizzy Gillespie*
 - » *Harriet Tubman*
 - » *Henry’s Freedom Box*
 - » *The Story of Ruby Bridges*
 - » *Martin Luther King, Jr.*
 - » *Luke Goes to Bat*
 - » *Jackie’s Gift*