

Black History Month Vocabulary Activities



festivities

fun activities
or parties to
celebrate a
special
occasion



celebration

marking a date
with an
enjoyable event



inventor

a person who
creates
something new
that has never
been made
before



contributions

the things
someone gives
or does to help
make
something
better

VOCABULARY CARDS & ACTIVITIES

Black History Vocabulary Activity

Cut out the words and definitions. Match them with the pictures.

Picture	Word

Black History Vocabulary Activity

Cut out the words and definitions. Match them with the pictures.

Picture	Word	Definition

inventor	contributions	someone who works hard to make changes in society, often to help people
historian	activist	big successes or victories, especially after a lot of effort
triumphs	festivities	a special time when people
celebration	equality	a person studies and about the

Black History Vocabulary Activity

Fill in the matrix for each word.

Definition	Characteristics
Examples	celebration

Definition	Characteristics
Examples	festivities

Black History Month

Black History Month is a celebration of important people and events in Black American History. It is celebrated throughout the month of February.

Article

Black History Month is celebrated with festivities, parades, and special events throughout the United States.

Origins of Black History Month

Black History Month was originally created by historian Carter G. Woodson in 1926. Woodson, an author and historian, felt it was important to bring greater attention to Black history. Few people studied Black history, and it wasn't taught in schools. Woodson wanted future generations to know about the achievements of Black Americans and how those achievements shaped the nation's history and culture.

Negro History Week eventually grew into Black History Month, a time each year dedicated to honoring and celebrating Black contributions to society.

Why We Celebrate Black History Month

We celebrate Black History Month for many reasons. It brings awareness of the roles Black Americans played in the United States and their contributions to American history, culture, and more.

Carter G. Woodson

Black History Month was originally created as "Negro History Week" by historian Carter G. Woodson in 1926. Woodson was a Harvard-educated Black author and historian. As a historian, he felt it was his responsibility to bring greater attention to Black history, and it wasn't taught in schools. Woodson wanted future generations to know about the achievements of Black Americans and how those achievements shaped the nation's history and culture.



CARTER G.

WOODSON
TEACHER, HISTORIAN, PUBLISHER

FROM 1903 TO 1906, DR. WOODSON WAS A SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS IN THE PHILIPPINES. HIS HEADQUARTERS WERE LOCATED NEAR THE SPOT WHERE THE FIRST JAPANESE FORCES LANDED AFTER PEARL HARBOR.

BORN OF EX-SLAVE PARENTS, YOUNG WOODSON COULD ONLY ATTEND SCHOOL ON RAINY DAYS, WHEN WORK ON THE FARM WAS IMPOSSIBLE. AT 17, HE WAS A MINER IN WEST

DR. WOODSON, THROUGH HIS SCHOLARLY WRITINGS, IS RESPONSIBLE MORE THAN ANY OTHER SINGLE PERSON FOR FAMILIARIZING THE AMERICAN PUBLIC WITH THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE NEGRO TO WORLD HISTORY. HE IS THE ORIGINATOR OF THE STUDY OF NEGRO HISTORY AND THE ASSOCIATION FOR NEGRO HISTORY.



George Washington Carver



Rosa Parks

For example, famous inventor George Washington Carver developed over 300 products using peanuts and sweet potatoes. Civil rights activist Rosa Parks helped pave the way for future generations by refusing to give up her seat on a bus during a time of severe racism against Black Americans. Activists like Martin Luther King Jr., writers like Maya Angelou, and athletes like Jackie Robinson helped shape Black history.

Black history learn Black

Web Sites

Black History Month



How Black History Month is Celebrated Today

People in the United States celebrate Black History Month in many ways. Cities and schools have exhibits of Black American music, literature, and art. They often arrange speaker discussions about Black History, and children read books about famous Black Americans. People learn more about the triumphs of Black Americans throughout history.

Black History Month is an important time to celebrate the achievements of Black Americans.



Teacher Notes & Table of Contents

This is a non-fiction article about Black History Month. The focus is on who created it, why it was created, and ways it is celebrated today. Included are several ways students can demonstrate their understanding of the text. Students can have discussions, work on comprehension skills, or write about what they learned.

Teacher Notes & Table of Contents

p. 3

Vocabulary Activities & Poster

p. 4

History of Black History Month
Reading Passage & Activities

p. 21

Websites & QR Codes

p. 25

Reading Comprehension Activities

p. 28

Answer Key

p. 36

