

BLACK

HISTORY MONTH

A SALUTE TO LABOR PIONEERS

FEBRUARY 1 - 28, 2025



A Message to HCPS Educators, Families and Stakeholders:

Hillsborough County Public Schools (HCPS) recognizes Black History Month from February 1–28, 2025. February provides a meaningful opportunity to learn about Black history, celebrate African American achievements, and reflect on the progress and challenges that shape our society.

This year's theme, "**A Salute to Labor Pioneers**," highlights the contributions of African American leaders who championed workers' rights, economic equality, and the dignity of labor.

Here in Tampa, trailblazer Perry Harvey Sr. was instrumental in negotiating for better wages, benefits and working conditions for Black longshoremen.

Other influential labor pioneers we invite you to learn about are:

- **Hattie Canty**
- **Dr. Dorothy Height**
- **Mary McLeod Bethune**
- **A. Philip Randolph**
- **Bayard Rustin**
- **Maggie Lena Walker**
- **Addie Wyatt**

Their perseverance and collective action remind us that meaningful progress requires unity and determination. Inspired by their legacy, we are committed to empowering every student to dream, achieve, and lead with purpose.

Thank you for your continued dedication to fostering growth, connection, and opportunity in our schools and communities.

Together, we honor the past as we build a brighter future.

With gratitude for all you do in support of students,

The Office of Family and Community Engagement (FACE)

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For questions about this guide, contact Qiahna Williams (Qiahna.Williams@hcps.net) - Outreach Coordinator, Family & Community Engagement

Section 1:

FOR ALL STAKEHOLDERS

The Family and Community Engagement (FACE) team invites you to join us at the events below this month.

Afro Cuban Ybor City Walking Tour

Tuesday February 18, 2025

10 AM to 11:30 AM

Description:

Join us for an enriching walking tour that explores the vibrant Afro-Cuban heritage in Ybor City.

Gain historical insights and visit cultural landmarks.

For more information contact:

Jessica De La Prida, Outreach Coordinator
Family & Community Engagement (FACE)

Jessica.Delaprida@hcps.net

(813) 272 – 4426

Space is Limited!

Register by February 17, 2025.

Scan the QR code or click the link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/QgU4rt2vZb> .



Uncovering Tampa's Black History Virtual Workshop

Thursday February 20, 2025

6:00 PM to 7:00 PM via Zoom

Description:

Join us for an inspiring journey through Tampa's rich Black history! Discover the powerful stories and lasting contributions of local trailblazers who shaped our community. Gain fresh insights, celebrate a legacy of resilience and progress, and leave empowered to share these vital narratives. Don't miss this opportunity to connect and learn!

For more information contact:

Qiahna Williams, Outreach Coordinator
Family & Community Engagement (FACE)

Qiahna.Williams@hcps.net

(813) 272 - 4666

Register by February 24, 2025.

Scan the QR code or click the link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/1iByrKGW3i>



Florida Black History Month Contest

Governor Ron Desantis and First Lady Casey Desantis

Art Contest

Open to students in Kindergarten – Grade 3.

[Submission Deadline: Monday February 3rd](#)

For contest details please visit:

<https://www.floridablackhistory.com/student-contests/>

Award: Four statewide winners will be selected. Each winner will receive a \$100 art supplies gift card and a 1-year pass to Florida state parks.

Essay Contest

Open to students in Grades 4 – 12.

[Submission Deadline: Monday February 3rd](#)

For contest details please visit:

<https://www.floridablackhistory.com/student-contests/>

Award: Six winners will be selected (2 from elementary, middle and high). Each winner will receive a 2-Year Florida College Plan scholarship provided by the Florida Prepaid College Foundation and a \$100 gift card for school supplies.

Black History Brain Bowl Competition

Hillsborough County Public Schools in partnership with the Hillsborough Alliance of Black School Educators (HABSE) will be hosting the 9th annual Black History Brain Bowl.

Come see students of all grade levels compete in the Brain Bowl finals!

HABSE 9TH ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY BRAIN BOWL



Date: Saturday February 22, 2025

Location: Middleton High School Auditorium

Semi-Final Rounds

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| 9:00 - 9:15 AM | Check In |
| 9:15 - 9:20 AM | Welcome |
| 9:20 - 10:00 AM | Elementary Semi-Finals |
| 10:00 - 10:40 AM | Middle School Semi-Finals |
| 10:40 - 11:20 AM | High School Semi-Finals |

Final Rounds

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| 11:35 - 11:55 AM | Elementary School Finals |
| 11:55 - 12:15 PM | Middle School Finals |
| 12:15 - 12:35 PM | High School Finals |

Closing Ceremony and Awards

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| 12:50 - 1:15 PM | All Levels |
|-----------------|------------|

Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO)

Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO) is a showcase of student excellence in *Business, Culinary, Humanities, Performing Arts, STEM, and Visual Arts disciplines*.

Hillsborough County Public Schools, in partnership with NAACP Hillsborough County Branch, is proud to celebrate our 2024 National ACT-SO youth competition winners!

Congratulations to both shining stars!



Makana Salim-Uesi

Tampa Bay Technical High School

National Silver Medalist – Architecture

National Silver Medalist – Biology/Microbiology



Amyrra Washington

Brandon High School - Class of 2024 Graduate

Lancôme “Write Her Future” scholarship recipient

Amyrra is one of 40 young women to be awarded the 2024 scholarship. She is also the first student from Hillsborough County to have ever won this award.

The 2025 local competition will take place Saturday April 5, 2025, 9 AM at Middleton High School.

To learn more about how your student(s) can get involved in ACT-SO, please contact:

Lynette Judge, ACT-SO Chair

(813) 644 – 2145

Ljudge1976@gmail.com










Visit the NAACP Hillsborough County Branch ACTSO website for competition information.

<https://naacphillsborough.org/actso/>

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Challenge



**BLACK HISTORY MONTH
STEM TIC-TAC-TOE**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  RUBE GOLDBERG Design and build a complex machine using a variety of items that creates a chain reaction! |  BUILD A BRIDGE Design and construct a bridge using materials found around the home or classroom! |  CAREERS Research the life of a famous historical Black figure. Create a poster to showcase their contribution to society. |
|  MINECRAFT Using Minecraft EDU, build a representation of your favorite moment in Black history! |  FREE SPACE! |  3D PORTRAIT Create a 3D portrait of a famous historical Black figure using recyclable materials! |
|  INVENTION Use your creativity to design an invention that solves a real-world problem. |  CODE Use Hour of Code Activities on Code.org to develop a poem about Black History Month! |  USE YOUR NOGIN! Critical thinking is the key to playing this Black History Month Trivia! Get your brain fired up and play! |

Complete the Tic-Tac-Toe Board by completing 3-in-a-row activities. Email your board with pictures of your completed activities to K-12STEM@hcps.net to be entered into a drawing for STEM prizes! All entries must be received by 3/7/25.

Resources for Support:

Rube Goldberg: <https://brainpowerboy.com/rube-goldberg-ideas-machine-tasks-and-materials/>

Build A Bridge: <https://www.teachingexpertise.com/classroom-ideas/bridge-activity/>

Careers: Use a web browser and search “famous African American inventors?”

Minecraft EDU: Minecraft EDU can be accessed through Clever. Here are some fun ideas for the activity:

<https://education.minecraft.net/en-us/resources/classroom-build-challenge>

3D Portrait: Using a web browser search for examples of 3D art for inspiration!

Invention: <https://inhub.thehenryford.org/curriculum-resources/invention-convention-curriculum>

Code: <https://studio.code.org/catalog?marketingInitiative=hoc>

Use Your Negin: Link to Black History Month Trivia Game: <https://listcaboodle.com/black-history-facts-quiz/>

myON Digital Read-In Challenge

During February, Hillsborough County Public Schools will host a virtual reading challenge, encouraging students to read as many books as possible throughout the month.

The featured books celebrate the contributions and history of African Americans.

Please see the flyer below for more information. On the following page, you will find additional resources that are available for educators, whose students will be participating in the challenge.



The Challenge

Hillsborough County Public Schools is hosting a special reading challenge designed to celebrate the contributions and history of Black Americans.

Curated lists of age-appropriate myON titles are available. All students are encouraged to participate by reading as many books as they can during the month of February!

Time spent reading will be recorded automatically within the myON platform. *If students are reading offline, they should be sure to log back into myON with WiFi before February 28, so their reading activity is included in their school's total minutes read.*

School Winners in Each Regional Area

The school in each of the regional areas with the highest average minutes read on myON during February will be recognized with a school banner.



www.ReadonmyON.com

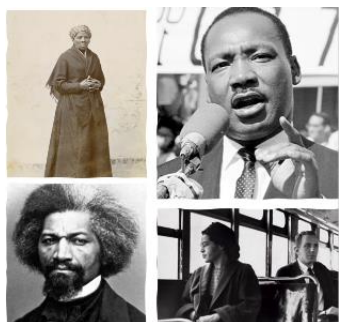
Family Friendly Learning Experiences & Resources

February is a great time for families to engage in learning experiences both at home and in the local community. Here are some ideas to help celebrate Black History Month:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Things to Do | <p>1) Explore the Tampa Bay History Center</p> <p>“Travails and Triumphs” Black History Exhibit - Tampa Bay History Center</p> <p>People of African descent have lived and labored in the Tampa Bay area for over five hundred years. Travails and Triumphs tells the story of the communities and families they forged, the hardships they endured, the jobs they worked, and the triumphs they celebrated.</p> <p>For more information visit: https://tampabayhistorycenter.org/exhibit/travails-and-triumphs/</p> |
| | <p>2) Take a Stroll</p> <p>Visit the City of Tampa “Soul Walk!” This African American heritage trail through the Arts is a collaboration with artists, writers, historians, and curators, to recognize and embed community stories, histories, and cultural traditions into our public spaces.</p> <p>Some of the places to visit along the walk are Tampa Union Station, Madame Fortune Taylor Bridge, The Tampa Bay History Center and the Bronze Medallions on Zack Street.</p> <p>For more information: https://tampa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/attachmentviewer/index.html?appid=f389a50b1476411aa4e7b20556f86458</p> |
| | <p>3) Enjoy the Arts at the Straz</p> <p>“When the Righteous Triumph” Play</p> <p>This compelling drama brings to life the courageous stories of individuals who stood up against injustice and fought for equality through sit-ins that led to the desegregation of Tampa lunch counters in the 1960s.</p> <p><u>Dates: March 6, 7, 8 and 9, 2025</u></p> <p>Straz Center Jaeb Theater https://www.strazcenter.org/events/2425-season/rental/when-the-righteous-triumph/</p> |

Black History Month Happenings in Kindergarten – Grade 5

African American History is required both in the Florida standards and by mandates of instruction in Florida Statute, s. 1003.42(2)(f), F.S.



Elementary Literacy celebrates the historical and literary contributions of the following figures, fostering an appreciation for their impact and achievements. Students will learn about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s leadership in the Civil Rights Movement and his dream of equality, Rosa Parks' courageous stand against segregation, and Harriet Tubman's heroic efforts to lead enslaved people to freedom through the Underground Railroad. They will also explore Frederick Douglass' powerful writings and speeches advocating for abolition and equality, as well as Ruby Bridges' bravery in desegregating schools. Through these lessons, students will be inspired by the stories of resilience, leadership, and the enduring fight for justice.

K-5 Math honors the achievements of African American mathematicians whose contributions have left a lasting impact on their fields and beyond.

Highlighted figures include:

- **Katherine Johnson (1918-2020):** A brilliant African American mathematician whose groundbreaking work at NASA was critical to the success of early space missions.
- **Elbert Frank Cox (1895–1969):** The first African American to earn a Ph.D. in mathematics (Cornell University, 1925). He made significant contributions to polynomial theory.
- **Euphemia Lofton Haynes (1890–1980):** The first African American woman to earn a Ph.D. in mathematics (1943, Catholic University of America).
- **Gladys West (born 1930):** She is a pioneering African American mathematician whose work was crucial in the development of the **Global Positioning System (GPS)**.



Students can discover how these trailblazers utilized their mathematical expertise to innovate, inspire, and address real-world challenges. Students will participate in discussions about their accomplishments and explore how their work connects to modern advancements in STEM.

K-5 Science is highlighting influential African Americans who have made the world a better place through their scientific discoveries or innovations. Highlights will be provided to teachers weekly to share with their students through the Science Spotlight.



Throughout the year, **K-5 Social Studies** instructional guides include lessons that engage students in exploring the lives and contributions of African Americans to local, state, and national history and society.

In February, students will learn about Carter G. Woodson (the 'Father of Black History Month'), James Weldon Johnson, the Tuskegee Airmen, Mary McLeod Bethune, Rev. Leon Lowry, Zora Neale Hurston, Thurgood Marshall, and other notable African American History Makers.

Black History Month essay contest: The Florida Department of Education and Volunteer Florida encourage students to participate in the Black History Month [essay contest](#) with the 2025 theme "Honoring African American Contributions to Florida's Success." Entry deadline is February 3, 2025.

Black History Month Happenings in Grade 6 - 8

African American History is required both in the Florida standards and by mandates of instruction in statute, s. 1003.42(2)(f), F.S.

English Language Arts (ELA):

Middle School ELA celebrates the historical and literary contributions of the following individuals and authors during Black History Month:

Life Doesn't Frighten Me by Maya Angelou, 1993; Yet Do I Marvel by Countee Cullen, 1925; I, Too by Langston Hughes, 1925; Rosa Parks, My Story by Rosa Parks, 1992; No Dream Too High by Simone Biles, 2013; Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave by Frederick Douglass, 1845; Speech to the Ohio Women's Conference Aint I A Woman, by Sojourner Truth, 1851; We Real Cool, by Gwendolyn Brooks, 1959.



Math:

6-8 Math is providing realigned lessons for teachers to infuse Black History into their math curriculum. These will be available in the 6-8 Math SharePoint and on Canvas. Additional focus is on *Celebrating Black Mathematicians*, including Gladys Smith, who helped to create GPS technology.



Science: As promoted by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), science teachers guide students to research and recognize the many scientific contributions of African Americans during Black History Month and all year long. These include Garrett Morgan, an African American inventor, businessman, and community leader. His most notable inventions were a three-light traffic light and a smoke hood (a predecessor to the gas mask) notably used in a 1916 tunnel construction disaster rescue. Resources for this are available via 6-8 Science Teams and featured at the January 2025 Subject Area Leader Training.



Social Studies: Much of the curriculum of middle school US History courses during February covers established state benchmarks on African American history, with lessons and resources to accomplish this available via 6-8 Social Studies Teams. The district Black History theme this month is *A Salute to Labor Pioneers*, so teachers can also spotlight two pioneers with a Florida connection: Mary McLeod Bethune and A. Philip Randolph.



Black History Month essay contest: The Florida Department of Education and Volunteer Florida encourage students to participate in the Black History Month essay contest with the 2025 theme "*Honoring African American Contributions to Florida's Success.*" Each winner receives a 2-year Florida College Plan scholarship from the Florida Prepaid College Foundation and a \$100 gift card for school supplies. Entry due by February 3.



National History Day: 6-8 Social Studies sponsors the regional competition of the National History Day competition which offers the opportunity to research and showcase Black History and the contributions of African Americans. National History Day's 2025 theme is *Rights & Responsibilities in History*.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2025

A Salute to Labor Pioneers

Social Studies

World History: Explore global labor movements during the Industrial Revolution. Examine reforms like Britain's Factory Acts and their global influence (SS.912.W.6.1, SS.912.W.6.3).

- Discussion Question: How did labor movements during the Industrial Revolution influence workers' rights globally?

U.S. History: Study African American labor pioneers such as A. Philip Randolph and key events like the Pullman Strike and the Fair Labor Standards Act (SS.912.A.5.10, SS.912.A.7.6).

- Discussion Question: How did African American labor leaders shape the Civil Rights Movement through their advocacy?

US Government: Analyze the role of government in labor policies and landmark cases like *NLRB v. Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation* (SS.912.CG.3.8).

- Discussion Question: What role should the government play in protecting workers' rights while balancing economic growth?

Economics: Investigate labor unions' impact on wages and economic policies, including modern challenges in the gig economy (SS.912.E.2.2).

- Discussion Question: How have labor unions influenced income equality in the U.S. over time?

Literacy

Students will have an opportunity to build their literacy skills through multiple texts explored throughout the month. Below are three highlights to support family discussions:

Rashema Melson's Valedictorian Address
Graduating as valedictorian from Anacostia High School in Washington, D.C., while living in a homeless shelter, Rashema Melson defied the odds to inspire many. Despite her challenging circumstances, she prioritized her education, attending classes, studying, and participating in sports for over twelve hours each day before returning to the shelter. In her 2014 speech, Melson shares life lessons and the people who shaped her journey to success.

Zora Neale Hurston's Their Eyes Were Watching God:
First published in 1937, this novel cemented Zora Neale Hurston's place as an influential American writer. It tells the story of Janie Crawford, a spirited, independent woman who pursues love despite facing prejudice and poverty. In an excerpt, Eatonville locals speculate about Janie's mysterious past as she returns home.

Leon Bridges: Overcoming Isolation to Find His Voice
Leon Bridges, a former dishwasher from Fort Worth, Texas, became a critically acclaimed soul singer at 25. In this article for Billboard, Jeff Weiss chronicles Bridges' journey, highlighting how he overcame childhood isolation and developed his unique sound, proving that "you can't teach soul."

Mathematics

During Black History Month, 9-12 Math celebrate the contributions of African American mathematicians who have made lasting impacts in their fields and beyond.

Highlighted figures include:

- **Benjamin Banneker** (1731–1806): Built America's first clock using trigonometry and astronomical calculations.
- **Elbert Frank Cox** (1895–1969): The first African American to earn a Ph.D. in mathematics, inspiring generations of mathematicians.
- **Katherine Johnson** (1918–2020): A NASA mathematician whose orbital mechanics calculations were critical to the success of U.S. space missions.
- **Gladys West** (1930–present): Pioneered mathematical modeling that contributed to the development of GPS technology.

Students can explore how these trailblazers used mathematical skills to innovate, inspire, and solve real-world problems. Engage in discussions about their achievements and connect their work to modern advancements in STEM.



Science

Black History Month shines a spotlight on the invaluable contributions of African Americans across all fields, including science, where their achievements have shaped our world.

Dr. George Washington Carver (1864–1943), a pioneering agricultural scientist, promoted sustainable farming through crop rotation and invented over 300 products from peanuts and sweet potatoes, transforming agriculture and empowering Southern farmers.

Dr. Mae Jemison (1956–present), an astronaut, engineer, and physician, broke barriers as the first African American woman in space aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavour in 1992. Her work continues to inspire diversity in STEM fields.

Dr. Charles Drew (1904–1950), a trailblazing surgeon and medical researcher, revolutionized blood storage methods, saving countless lives during World War II and creating the blueprint for modern blood banks.

Their legacies exemplify the profound impact of African Americans on science and society. Students are encouraged to reflect upon their own contributions to their communities and to society as a whole.

Black History Events Across Hillsborough County

February 2, 9, 16 and 23

[Black Love Classics Series](#)

3 pm – Tampa Theatre

February 8

[United Negro College Fund Walk for Education & HBCU Festival](#)

8 am to 11 am – Perry Harvey Sr. Park

February 17

[City of Tampa Black History Celebration](#)

11:00 am – Tampa Theatre

February 22

[Black History Brain Bowl Finals Competition](#)

9 am – Middleton High School

February 24

[Black History Book Club: “Black Like Me”](#)

5:30 pm – Tampa’s Black History Museum

Disclaimer: Reference to specific products, services or companies does not constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Hillsborough County Public Schools. HCPS is not responsible for the contents of “off-site” web page references or for any private, third-party, pop-up or browser-integrated software or applications.

Section 2:

FOR EDUCATORS & SCHOOL STAFF

Instructional Planning Resources

The materials in this section are intended to assist teachers in recognizing and teaching about the contributions of African Americans and celebrating their significant achievements as set forth in Statute and standards by the state of Florida:

Required Public School Instruction on the History of African Americans Florida Statute 1003.42

(2) Members of the instructional staff of the public schools, subject to the rules and regulations of the commissioner, the state board, and the school board, shall teach efficiently and faithfully, using the books and materials required, following the prescribed courses of study, and employing approved methods of instruction, the following:

(h) The history of African Americans, including the history of African peoples before the political conflicts that led to the development of slavery, the passage to America, the enslavement experience, abolition, and the contributions of African Americans to society.

Instructional materials shall include the contributions of African Americans to American society.

Black History Month: History and Overview

[History and Overview - Black History Month: A Commemorative Observances Legal Research Guide - Research Guides at Library of Congress \(loc.gov\)](#)

National Black History Month has its origins in 1915, when historian and author Dr. Carter G. Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. This organization is now known as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History External (ASALH). Through this organization, Dr. Woodson initiated the first Negro History Week in February 1926. Dr. Woodson selected the week in February that included the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, two key figures in the history of Black Americans.

In 1975, President Ford issued a Message on the Observance of Black History Week External urging all Americans to "recognize the important contribution made to our nation's life and culture by black citizens." In 1976, ASALH expanded this commemoration of Black history in the United States from a week-long observance to Black History Month, which also has been known as African American History Month. In the same year, President Ford issued a Message on the Observance of Black History Month External. In subsequent years, presidents continued to issue messages External honoring Black History Month.

In 1986, Congress passed Public Law 99-244, which designated February 1986 as "National Black (Afro-American) History Month." This law noted that February 1, 1986, would "mark the beginning of the sixtieth annual public and private salute to Black History." The law further directed the president to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe February 1986 as Black History Month with the appropriate ceremonies and activities. President Reagan issued Presidential Proclamation 5443 External, which proclaimed that "the foremost purpose of Black History Month is to make all Americans aware of this struggle for freedom and equal opportunity." This proclamation stated further that this month was a time "to celebrate the many achievements of African Americans in every field from science and the arts to politics and religion."

Since 1996, presidents have issued annual proclamations for National Black History Month. In January 1996, President Clinton issued Presidential Proclamation 6863 External for "National African American History Month." The proclamation emphasized the theme for that year, the achievements of Black women from Sojourner Truth to Mary McLeod Bethune and Toni Morrison. Since 1996, Congress has regularly passed resolutions honoring Black History Month. In February 1996, the Senate passed Senate Resolution 229 commemorating Black History Month and the contributions of Black American U.S. Senators.

Suggestions for Teaching Black History

- Incorporate Black history year-round, not just in February. Use the month of February to dig deeper into history and make connections with the past.
- Continue Learning. Explore how to provide an in-depth and thorough understanding of Black history. A textbook is just one of many resources. While exploring multiple resources in this document, allow for opportunities to learn along with your students.
- Make Black history relevant to *all* students. Provide opportunities for student discussion and reflection for connected learning to occur.
- Relate lessons to other parts of your curriculum so that focusing on a leader, like Thurgood Marshall, expands upon rather than diverts from your curriculum. By the time February comes around, the context of the struggle for civil rights and social justice should be familiar to students because those issues have already been addressed across the curriculum and in previous learning.
- Connect issues in the past to current issues to make history relevant to students' lives. For example, ask students to gather information with a focus on how a particular leader has worked to change society.
- Keep in mind that Black History Month also honors the history before the United States was created, which could include ancient African kingdoms, diaspora, etc.
- During Black History Month, it is best to connect and integrate the learning across the curriculum to prevent trivializing and marginalizing the experiences and contributions of history makers.
- Avoid a focus on superficial cultural traits based on stereotypes. For example, it's ok to celebrate black music, but teachers should also explore the political and social contexts that give rise to musical forms like hip hop, blues and jazz.
- Historical events and people's lived experiences are situated in a particular context, time and place. Teaching about Black history must include also teaching about the context in developmentally appropriate ways.
- As per the Florida Department of Education Code of Ethics, take precautions to avoid presenting personal views and value judgements.

For Kindergarten and Grade 1

Significant African Americans and Their Contributions

Note: The content of web-based resources is constantly changing.
As with all materials, the information contained in the links below should be carefully reviewed by the teacher, to determine the appropriateness and usefulness before incorporating materials into lessons for students.

| Grade | Person | Contribution | Resources |
|-------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| K | Barack Obama | First African American President | myOn Book: Barak Obama |
| K | Madam C. J. Walker | Inventor of a hair growing lotion | myOn Book: Madam C. J. Walker Biography Madam C. J. Walker |
| K | Lonnie G. Johnson | Inventor of the Super Soaker water gun | Biography: Lonnie G. Johnson |
| K | Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard | Children's author | Biography Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard |
| K | Booker T. Washington | Teacher, speaker & leader | myOn Book: Booker T. Washington |
| K | Garrett Morgan | Inventor of the traffic light and gas mask | Biography: Garret Morgan |
| K/1 | Carter G. Woodson | Father of Black History Month | Biography Carter G. Woodson K/1 |
| 1 | Benjamin Banneker | Appointed by George Washington to work on the design for the capital | myOn Book: Benjamin Banneker |
| 1 | George Washington Carver | Inventor of peanut butter and 400 other products from plants | myOn Book George Washington Carver |
| 1 | Jackie Robinson | First black Major League Baseball Player | myOn Book: Jackie Robinson |
| 1 | Wilma Rudolph | First American woman to win 3 gold medals. | myOn Book: Wilma Rudolph |

For Grade 2 and Grade 3

Significant African Americans and Their Contributions

Note: The content of web-based resources is constantly changing.
As with all materials, the information contained in the links below should be carefully reviewed by the teacher, to determine the appropriateness and usefulness before incorporating materials into lessons for students.

| Grade | Person | Contribution | Resources |
|-------|------------------------------------|--|--|
| 2 | Martin Luther King, Jr. | Civil Rights Leader | HCPS Lesson: Celebrating Dr. King |
| 2 | Mary McLeod Bethune | Educator, Writer, Speaker and Businesswoman | Exploring Civics Literacy Grade 2: Mary McLeod Bethune |
| 2 | African and African American Music | Music and Dance | Exploring Civics Literacy Grade 2: George "Buster" Cooper History of Jazz video clip text passage |
| 2 | Garrett Morgan | Inventor who patented gas mask and 3-signal stop light | Exploring Civics Literacy Grade 2: Garrett Morgan |
| 2 | Mae Jemison | Engineer and astronaut | Exploring Civics Literacy Grade 2: Mae Jemison |
| 2/3 | Carter G. Woodson | Father of Black History Month | HCPS Biography: Carter G. Woodson 2/3 |
| 3 | Booker T. Washington | Educator and Civil Rights Leader | Biography: Booker T. Washington |
| 3 | Harriet Tubman | Nurse, Civil Rights Activist | Biography: Harriett Tubman |
| 3 | Marion Anderson | Singer | Biography: Marion Anderson |
| 3 | Rosa Parks | Seamstress and Civil Rights Activist | HCPS Lesson: Rosa Parks |
| 3 | Thurgood Marshall | First Black Supreme Court Justice | Biography: Thurgood Marshall |

For Grade 4 and Grade 5

Significant African Americans and Their Contributions

Note: The content of web-based resources is constantly changing.
As with all materials, the information contained in the links below should be carefully reviewed by the teacher, to determine the appropriateness and usefulness before incorporating materials into lessons for students.

| Grade | Person | Contribution | Resources |
|-------|----------------------|---|---|
| 4 | Jonathan C. Gibbs | First African American Secretary of State in Florida | Biography: Jonathan C. Gibbs |
| 4 | Ft. Mose | First Legally Sanctioned African American Community in the US | HCPS Lesson: Ft. Mose (Protection and Defense of St. Augustine) |
| 4 | Eatonville | First Incorporated All-Black Town | Eatonville |
| 4 | Arthenia Joyner | Philanthropist, Lawyer, Civil Rights Leader | Exploring Civics Literacy Grade 4: Arthenia Joyner |
| 4 | Florida Highwaymen | Talented Landscape Artists who sold their works of art along the sides of roads | Exploring Civics Literacy Grade 4: Florida Highwaymen |
| 4 | Tony Dungy | Football Coach, Writer, Sports Commentator | Biography: Tony Dungy |
| 4 | Joseph W. Hatchett | Florida Supreme Court Judge | Biography: Joseph W. Hatchett |
| 4 | Mary McLeod Bethune | Educator, Civil Rights Leader | Biography: Mary McLeod Bethune |
| 4 | Wally Amos | Founder of Famous Amos Cookies | Biography: Wally Amos |
| 4 | James Weldon Johnson | Author, poet, etc. from Jacksonville | Exploring Civics Literacy Grade 4: James Weldon Johnson |
| 4/5 | Carter G. Woodson | Father of Black History Month | Biography: Carter G. Woodson 4/5 |
| 5 | York | First Black Explorer – with Lewis & Clark | Biography: York |
| 5 | Buffalo Soldiers | African American Cavalry | Buffalo Soldiers |
| 5 | Frederick Douglass | Newspaper Editor and Abolitionist | Biography: Frederick Douglass |
| 5 | Thurgood Marshall | First Black Supreme Court Justice | Biography: Thurgood Marshall |
| 5 | Peter Salem | Fought at the Concord | Biography: Peter Salem |
| 5 | Sojourner Truth | Anti-slavery Activist Women's Rights Activist | Biography: Sojourner Truth |

For Grade 6

Significant African Americans and Their Contributions

Note: The content of web-based resources is constantly changing.
As with all materials, the information contained in the links below should be carefully reviewed by the teacher, to determine the appropriateness and usefulness before incorporating materials into lessons for students.

| Grade | Person | Contribution | Resources |
|-------|--|---|--|
| 6 | Mae C. Jemison, Wilma Rudolph, Misty Copeland | 20 th Century African American Influential Women: | https://hillsborough.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/sites/SocialStudies6-8/Curriculum/Black%20History%20Month/Influential%20Af%20Am%20Women/Af%20Am%20Influential%20Women?csf=1&web=1&e=uikXVN https://spacecenter.org/astronaut-friday-mae-jemison/ https://www.olympic.org/wilma-rudolph https://www.abt.org/people/misty-copeland/ |
| 6 | Local African American History | Learn about the people for whom some of our schools are named. | https://hillsborough.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/sites/SocialStudies6-8/Curriculum/Black%20History%20Month/Local%20Af%20Am%20History/Local%20Af%20Am%20History?csf=1&web=1&e=vqXqlc |
| 7 | Civil Rights Amendments to the Constitution | Amendments that ended slavery, ensured equal rights, and guaranteed voting rights to women, African Americans, and other minority groups. | https://www.floridastudents.org/PreviewResource/StudentResource/119044 CPALMS tutorial https://hillsborough.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/SocialStudies6-8/Curriculum/Black%20History%20Month/CIS%20Voting%20Controversies%20CIS%202.docx?d=w7db0f24ca9cb4f17ae992995d86638f4&csf=1&web=1&e=1vjGWN |
| 7 | Landmark Cases: Supreme Court and Equal Rights | Impact of the Supreme Court decisions on the rights of individuals and society throughout American history including: Plessy vs. Ferguson and Brown vs. Board of Education. | https://www.floridastudents.org/PreviewResource/StudentResource/120141 CPALMS tutorial https://www.floridastudents.org/PreviewResource/StudentResource/126599 CPALMS tutorial https://www.floridasupremecourt.org/About-the-Court/Educational-Resources/Landmark-cases-before-the-Court (additional Florida cases including Virgil Hawkins) https://www.icivics.org/curriculum/landmark-library |
| 8 | Sectionalism in 1800s US | Era in US history where sectionalism and debates over slavery led to conflict | https://teachingamericanhistory.org/resource/expansion-sectionalism-toolkit/ |
| 8 | African American Congressional Medal of Honor Recipients | Biographies of African American Medal of Honor recipients throughout the conflicts of US history. | https://www.cmohs.org/news-events/blog/honoring-the-african-american-recipients-of-the-civil-war/ https://www.army.mil/africanamericans/profiles/carney.html https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/articles/medal-of-honor-recipient-vernon-baker https://hillsborough.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/sites/SocialStudies6-8/Curriculum/Black%20History%20Month/Stick%20Figure%20History?csf=1&web=1&e=ee9hSE |
| 8-12 | Pearl Primus | Anthropologist, Sociologist and Choreographer | https://hillsborough.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/SocialStudies6-8/Curriculum/Black%20History%20Month/Pearl%20Primus.docx?d=w9f03a8125ec84323bffaef792cbd200&csf=1&web=1&e=xsBYHt https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/primus-pearl-1919-1994/ |

For Grade 9 – Grade 12

Significant African Americans and Their Contributions

Note: The content of web-based resources is constantly changing.

As with all materials, the information contained in the links below should be carefully reviewed by the teacher, to determine the appropriateness and usefulness before incorporating materials into lessons for students.

| Grade | Person | Contribution | Resources |
|-------|--|---|---|
| 9-12 | Government - Black Members of Congress | | https://history.house.gov/Exhibitions-and-Publications/BAIC/Historical-Data/Black-American-Representatives-and-Senators-by-Congress/ |
| 9-12 | Government – 13 th , 14 th & 15 th Amendments to The Constitution | | https://constitutioncenter.org/learn/civic-calendar/african-american-history-month https://www.crf-usa.org/images/pdf/Abolitionists-and-the-Constitution.pdf |
| 9-12 | World – Enlightenment | Enlightenment Thinkers on Slavery | https://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plans/slavery-and-american-founding-inconsistency-not-be-excused https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/whp-origins/era-6-the-long-nineteenth-century-1750-ce-to-1914-ce/61-liberal-and-national-revolutions-beta/a/read-the-enlightenment-beta https://slate.com/news-and-politics/2018/06/taking-the-enlightenment-seriously-requires-talking-about-race.html |
| 9-12 | World Revolutions | Slavery in the Age of the Revolutions; including the American, French, Haitian and Latin American Revolutions | http://slaveryandremembrance.org/articles/article/?id=A0015 |
| 9-12 | U.S. History – Civil Rights | Civil Rights Movement, Voters Rights Act, Philosophy of Nonviolence | https://www.crf-usa.org/black-history-month/blog |
| 9-12 | Economics – Earl G. Graves Sr. | Founder and Publisher of Black Enterprise Magazine | http://dream-usa.org/blog/2012/2/24/the-top-african-americans-in-financial-literacy.html |
| 9-12 | Economics – Mellody Hobson | Chairwoman of Starbucks | http://dream-usa.org/blog/2012/2/24/the-top-african-americans-in-financial-literacy.html |
| 9-12 | Economics – Sharon Epperson | Senior Personal Finance Correspondent for CNBC | http://dream-usa.org/blog/2012/2/24/the-top-african-americans-in-financial-literacy.html |
| 9-12 | African American Speeches | Speeches and primary sources from 1787 through today | https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/speeches-african-american-history/ |

Local, State, and National Resources

Hillsborough County

Digital Resources

- **“Twistin’ Down Central: A Tribute to Tampa’s Black Music Legends”**
Tampa Red, Ella Fitzgerald, Chick Webb, and Ray Charles are just a few of the notable musicians to play in Tampa during Central Avenue’s heyday. Learn about the legendary Black musicians that lifted spirits and defined Central Avenue’s legacy
<https://tampabayhistorycenter.org/blog/twistin-down-central-a-tribute-to-tampas-black-music-legends/>
- **“From the Scrub to the Twist”**
This City of Tampa guide highlights the significance of Perry Harvey Sr. Park, the historical Central Avenue district and other historical landmarks.
<https://www.tampa.gov/document/scrub-twist-7001>
- **Friends of Riverwalk: Historical Monument Trail**
Learn about significant African Americans and their contributions to Tampa
<https://thetampariverwalk.com/visit/historical-monument-trail.html>
- **“Our Lives, Our Legacies: The Hillsborough Black Experience”**
A collection of images and audio recordings that capture Hillsborough’s history.
<https://digitalcollections.hcplc.org/digital/collection/p16054coll5>
- **City of Tampa Archives and Record Collection**
Features photographs from various City of Tampa departments as well as outside organizations. It contains a broad assortment of photographs featuring local places, people and events.
<https://digitalcollections.hcplc.org/digital/collection/p16054coll12>
- **“Hillsborough Remembers” Oral History Collection**
A collection of oral stories that highlight individuals of community, cultural or historical significance.
<https://digitalcollections.hcplc.org/digital/collection/p15391qs>
- **Burgert Brothers Photographic Collection**
A pictorial record of Tampa Bay from the late 1800s to the early 1960s.
<https://digitalcollections.hcplc.org/digital/collection/p15391coll1>

Books

- **Things Remembered: An Album of African Americans in Tampa**
Author: Rowena Ferrell Brady
Available at the Hillsborough Tampa Public Library
- **Images of America: African Americans in Tampa**
Author: Ersula Knox Odom
Available at the Hillsborough Tampa Public Library

Digital Resources

Florida's African American Museums

From great leaders to everyday heroes, African Americans are an integral part of the history and development of Florida. Explore the different Florida museums listed below. Each one highlights and preserves African American culture.

[South Florida African American Museums](#)

[Central Florida African American Museums](#)

[North Florida African American Museums](#)

Florida Memory State Library – Black History Online Classroom

Florida Memory is the home of the State Archives of Florida. This resource linked below houses photographs, videos, and audio clips and offers collections of valuable documents that enhance the teaching of Florida history.

Florida Memory has a feature dedicated to Black History Month that provides classroom resources including lesson plans and complete educational units.

Link to access: [Florida Memory • Resources for Black History Month](#)

Digital Resources

Interpreting the African American Story

The Teaching and Learning Team at the National Museum of African American History and Culture offers a variety of resources to help educators engage their students in African American history.

The educational resources are designed to:

- Interpret African American history through multiple lenses
- Highlight collection objects and primary source documents related to African American history and culture
- Facilitate conversation around the nuanced history of African Americans

For more information:

[Resources | National Museum of African American History and Culture \(si.edu\)](#)

African American Learning Labs

The National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) also offers museum experiences at home. The Smithsonian Learning Lab is a FREE, interactive platform for learners and educators. Users can explore moments of history through millions of authentic, digital resources, create content with online tools and share in the Smithsonian's expansive community of knowledge and learning.

For more information:

[National Museum of African American History and Culture - Group - sll \(si.edu\)](#)

African American Reading Resources

Created for 3rd – 12th grade learners and educators, book selections, comprised of non-fiction and fiction, are curated to provide enrichment about African American history and culture based on permanent and temporary exhibitions within the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Related book lists include:

- The History Galleries
- The Community Galleries
- The Culture Galleries

For more information:

[Reading Resources | National Museum of African American History and Culture \(si.edu\)](#)

African American Read In

The National African American Read-In (**AARI**) is a groundbreaking effort to encourage communities to read together, centering on African American books and authors.

Hillsborough County Public Schools will host a district wide African American Read-In (AARI) in support of this national initiative in order to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month.

Tools for Implementation

HCPS African American Read-In Resource

This resource, developed by the Office of Family & Community Engagement, consists of materials to help schools host an in-person or virtual event. The included texts are written by African American authors and/or highlight the African American experience.

The resource contains recordings from the following notable individuals:

- Mayor Jane Castor
- Thaddeus Bullard (aka Titus O'Neil),
- Florida Representative Fentrice Driskell
- Civil Rights Attorney Benjamin Crump and his wife Genae Crump

Link: [HCPS African American Read-In Resource](#)

Additionally, recordings of City of Tampa employees are available for students to enjoy.

Link: [City of Tampa Virtual library](#)

National African American Read-In Toolkit

For additional resources to help with the planning and implementation of a read-in at your site, please visit the National Council of Teachers of English website below:

- Link: [National AARI](#)

HCPS Leaders Read Aloud

During the month of February, prerecorded readings of School Board Members and a variety of District Leaders are available for use. HCPS leaders participated by reading a book or poetry that is written by an African American author that elevates African American experiences (old/new, fiction or non-fiction).

- Link: [AARI District Leadership Read Aloud](#)

myON Reading List by grade level:

PreK – Grade 2

<https://renaissance.widen.net/s/zpbpqdp1ln/847849-romo-hillsborough-bhm-booklist-pre-k-2>

Grade 3 – Grade 5

<https://renaissance.widen.net/s/xqpdhphgmw/847849-romo-hillsborough-bhm-booklist-3-5>

Grade 6 and up

<https://renaissance.widen.net/s/w8tzkcvjs/847849-romo-hillsborough-bhm-booklist-6up>

Award: Winners will be announced March 2025.

- The school within each of our district regions, that has the highest average of minutes read from Feb 1 – 28 will be recognized.

For More Information, please visit the myON website:

<https://hillsborough.renaissance.com/reading-campaign/black-history-month-digital-read-in/>

myON Challenge - Tips & Tricks

Students who are reading offline, should log in to the myON platform via wifi before February 28, 2025. This is to ensure that their reading activity is included in the school's total minutes read.

Teachers and media specialists may also download / assign projects on the platform.

To do so, go to the myON project cloud, search "2025blackhistorymonth" and copy the project.

Below are links to step-by-step instructions on how to download projects and assign them to students in myON.

- Link: [How to Copy a Project from the Cloud](#)
- Link: [How to Assign Projects](#)

Black History Month: Suggested Reading List for Students in Grades K – 3

| TITLE | AUTHOR | TITLE | AUTHOR |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Something Beautiful | Sharon Wyeth | C.L.O.U.D.S. | Pat Cummings |
| The Quilt | Ann Jonas | My Mama Needs Me | Mildred Pitts Walter |
| Bill Pickett: Rodeo-Riding Cowboy | Andrea Pinkney & Brian Pinkney | Black Child | Peter Mugabane |
| Drylongso | Virginia Hamilton | Just Us Women | Jeanette Caines |
| I Am Rosa Parks | Rosa Parks & James Haskins | Mother Crocodile: An Uncle Amadou Tale from Senegal | Rosa Guy |
| Stories Huey Tells | Ann Cameron | I Have a Sister, My Sister is Deaf | Jean W. Peterson |
| Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt | Deborah Hopkinson | Africa Dream | Eloise Greenfield |
| Duey's Tale | Pearl Bailey | Mary McLeod Bethune | Eloise Greenfield |
| Ray Charles | Sharon Bell Mathis | The Moon Ring | Randy DuBurke |
| Jazzy Miz Mozetta | Brenda C. Roberts | The Piano Man | Debbie Chocolate |
| Family Plays Music | Judy Cox | Everett Anderson's Good- bye | Lucille Clifton |
| Ruby Bridges Goes to School: My True Story | Ruby Bridges | Sojourner Truth's Step- Stomp-Stride | Andrea Davis Pinkney |
| If You Were a Kid During the Civil Rights Movement | Gwendolyn Hooks | Delivering Justice: W.W. Law and the Fight for Civil Rights | James Haskins |
| Great Black Heroes: Five Notable Inventors | Wade Hudson | 28 Days: Moments in Black History that Changed the World | Charles R. Smith Jr. |
| Gordon Parks: How a Photographer Captured Black and White America | Carole Boston Weatherford | Great Black Heroes: Five Brave Explorers | Wade Hudson |
| Henry's Freedom Box | Ellen Levine | Amistad | Patricia McKissack |
| Granddaddy's Gift | Margaree King Mitchell | The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind | William Kamkwamba |
| Great Black Heroes: Five Brilliant Scientists | Lynda Jones | 50 Cents and a Dream: Young Booker T. Washington | Jabari Asim |

Black History Month: Suggested Reading List for Students in Grades K – 3

| TITLE | AUTHOR | TITLE | AUTHOR |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| I Dream of Trains | Angela Johnson | Uptown | Bryan Collier |
| I've Seen the Promised Land: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. | Walter Dean Myers | In Daddy's Arms I am Tall: African Americans Celebrating Fathers | Alan Schroeder |
| Little Eight John | Jan Wahl | Freedom River | Doreen Rappaport |
| Papa's Mark | Gwendolyn Battle Lavert | Virgie Goes to School with Us Boys | Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard |
| The Hard-Times Jar | Ethel Footman Smothers | My Rows and Piles of Coins | Tololwa M. Mollel |
| What's the Hurry, Fox? And the Other Animal Stories | Zora Neale Hurston | Rap a Tap Tap: Here's Bojangles - Think That | Leon and Diane Dillon |
| Brer Rabbit and the Tar Baby Girl | Virginia Hamilton | Minty: A Story of Young Harriet Tubman | Alan Schroeder |
| Almost to Freedom | Vaunda Micheaux Nelson | Neeny Coming, Neeny Going | Karen English |
| Thunder Rose | Jerdine Nolen | The Faithful Friend | Robert San Souci |
| Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. | Doreen Rappaport | The Palm of My Heart: Poetry by African American Children | Gregorie Christie |
| Goin' Someplace Special | Patricia McKissack and Jerry Pinkney | Sukey and the Mermaid | Robert San Souci |
| Working Cotton | Sherley Anne Williams | The Patchwork Quilt | Valerie Flourney |
| When I Am Old With You | Angela Johnson | A Chair for My Mother | Vera Williams |
| An Enchanted Hair Tale | Alexis De Veaux | Anansi The Spider: A Tale from Ashanti | Gerald McDermott |
| Half a Moon and One Whole Star | Crescent Dragonwagon | Big Mama's | Donald Crews |
| Bright Eyes, Brown Skin | Cheryl Hudson & Bernette Ford | The Dream Keeper and Other Poems | Langston Hughes & Brian Pinkney |
| Daddy and I | Eloise Greenfield | Grandmama's Joy | Eloise Greenfield |
| Nina Bonita | Ana Machado | The Talking Eggs | Robert San Souci |

Black History Month: Suggested Reading List for Students in Grades 4 - 5

| TITLE | AUTHOR | TITLE | AUTHOR |
|--|-----------------------|--|---------------------|
| Freedom Summer | Deb Wiles | The Origin of Life on Earth: An African Creation Myth | David A. Anderson |
| Against All Odds: Artist Dean Mitchell's Story | Betty R. James | Night on the Neighborhood Street | Eloise Greenfield |
| Talkin' About Bessie: The Story of Aviator Elizabeth Coleman | Nikki Grimes | Tar Beach | Faith Ringgold |
| Only Passing Through: The Story of Sojourner Truth | Anne Rockwell | The Road to Memphis | Mildred Taylor |
| In the Time of the Drums | Kim L. Siegelson | Nathaniel Talking | Eloise Greenfield |
| I Have Heard of a Land | Joyce Carol Thomas | Mirandy and Brother Wind | Patricia McKissack |
| Duke Ellington: The Piano Prince and His Orchestra | Andrea Davis Pinkney | Under the Sunday Tree | Eloise Greenfield |
| The Hunterman and the Crocodile | Baba Waguè Diakité | Storm in the Night | Mary Stolz |
| The Singing Man | Angela Shelf Medearis | Lion and the Ostrich Chicks and Other African Folk Tales | Ashley Bryan |
| Soul Looks Back in Wonder | Phyllis Fogelman | All the Colors of the Race | Arnold Adoff |
| The Bat Boy and His Violin | Gavin Curtis | A Little Love | Virginia Hamilton |
| Uncle Jed's Barbershop | Margaree Mitchell | Beat the Story Drum | Ashley Bryan |
| Brown Honey in Broomwheat Tea | Carol Thomas | Skates of Uncle Richard, | Carol Fenner |
| The Great Migration: An American Story | Jacob Lawrence | Something on My Mind, | Nikki Grimes |
| Harlem, | Dean Myers | Brothers in Hope: The Story of the Lost Boys of Sudan | R. Gregory Christie |

Black History Month: Suggested Reading List for Students in Grades 4 - 5

| TITLE | AUTHOR | TITLE | AUTHOR |
|---|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| Circle of Gold | Dawson Boyd | Great Black Heroes: Five Brilliant Scientists | Lynda Jones |
| Great Black Heroes: Five Notable Inventors | Wade Hudson | Great Black Heroes: Five Brave Explorers | Wade Hudson |
| Henry's Freedom Box | Ellen Levine | 28 Days: Moments in Black History that Changed the World | Charles R. Smith Jr. |
| Granddaddy's Gift | Margaree King Mitchell | The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind | William Kamkwamba |
| Amistad | Patricia McKissack | Rosa | Nikki Giovanni |
| Get On Board: The Story of the Underground Railroad | Jim Haskins | 50 Cents and a Dream: Young Booker T. Washington | Jabari Asim |
| Forty Acres and Maybe a Mule | Harriette Gillem Robinet | Duke Ellington: The Piano Prince and His Orchestra | Andrea Davis Pinkney |
| Champion | Jim Haskins | Martin Rising: Requiem for a King | Andrea Davis Pinkney |
| The Mighty Miss Malone | Christopher Paul Curtis | Black Eagles: African Americans in Aviation | Jim Haskins |
| Bud, Not Buddy | Christopher Paul Curtis | Through My Eyes | Ruby Bridges |
| Daniel Alexander Payne: Great Black Leader | Rudine Sims Bishop | Portraits of African American Heroes | Tonya Bolden |

Black History Month: Suggested Reading List for Students in Grades 6 - 12

| TITLE | AUTHOR | TITLE | AUTHOR |
|---|------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Gordon Parks: How a Photographer Captured Black and White America | Carole Boston Weatherford | Delivering Justice: W.W. Law and the Fight for Civil Rights | James Haskins |
| Martin Rising: Requiem for a King | Andrea Davis Pinkney | Black Eagles: African Americans in Aviation | Jim Haskins |
| Champion | Jim Haskins | The Mighty Miss Malone | Christopher Paul Curtis |
| Bud Not Buddy | Christopher Paul Curtis | Through My Eyes | Ruby Bridges |
| Forty Acres and Maybe a Mule | Harriette Gillem Robinet | Sojourner Truth: Ain't I a Woman | Patricia McKissack |
| Daniel Alexander Payne: Great Black Leader | Rudine Sims Bishop | Portraits of African American Heroes | Tonya Bolden |
| Promises to Keep: How Jackie Robinson Changed America | Sharon Robinson | Get On Board: The Story of the Underground Railroad | Jim Haskins |
| Hidden Figures | Margot Lee Shetterly | Heart and Soul | Kadir Nelson |
| The Greatest: Muhammad Ali | Walter Dean Myer | | |

Section 3:

FOR DISTRICT OFFICES

Area & Lobby Displays

District Office Decorations

Theme: A Salute to Labor Pioneers

Important: This is not a contest.

Let's raise the bar for interactive, educational Black History Month decorations and/or displays across all district offices. *We invite you to think outside of the box as you showcase the contributions of African American leaders who championed workers' rights.*

Let's allow our OWN creativity to shine!

We want visitors to your area to walk away with a greater understanding and appreciation for Black excellence across different disciplines. Not only will this be FUN and exciting for all, but it is also our hope that you will be able to make ties to Hillsborough's black history.

Labor Pioneers to Consider:

Hattie Canty
A. Philip Randolph

Perry Harvey Sr.
Bayard Rustin

Dorothy Height
Maggie Lena Walker

Mary McLeod Bethune
Addie Wyatt

Raymond O. Shelton School Administrative Center (ROSSAC) 1st Floor Lobby Display – Starting February 3, 2025.

As our district recognizes Black History Month, student artwork celebrating African American Achievements will be showcased in the ROSSAC lobby gallery.

Keep your eyes open for these creative, innovative and striking pieces!

Elevator Education

Each week, you will have a chance to learn more about labor pioneers as you ride up and down district office elevators.

Be on the lookout as we highlight African American leaders who championed workers' rights, economic equality, and the dignity of labor.

You never know where this information might show up again this month (HINT, HINT)

Stay tuned for more details 😊

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The 2025 Black History Month Resource Guide is a collaborative effort between Academic Services and Family & Community Engagement (FACE).

Together, we are committed to providing valuable resources that foster learning, growth, and celebration of Black history.

This guide is designed to serve as a tool for educators, students, families, and community partners.

It includes information on local events, educational resources, and activities that honor the rich legacy of African American history and culture.

We hope it will inspire meaningful discussions and a deeper understanding of the vital contributions of the Black community to our shared history.

