

Celebrating Pioneers: Black History Month

Learning objective: To understand the significance of Black History Month and explore the contributions of individuals who have shaped British and global history.

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of history to provide detailed answers. Think about how these individuals overcame challenges to make a positive impact on society.

Black History Month is an annual observance that celebrates the achievements and contributions of Black people throughout history. It is a time to learn about those who fought for civil rights, excelled in the arts and sciences, and championed equality. In the UK, it is observed every October to ensure that these stories are told, remembered, and integrated into our shared history all year round.

Word bank: contribution · pioneer · equality · injustice · legacy · activism · perseverance · representation

1. Why do you think it is important to have a specific month dedicated to celebrating Black history? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

2. Ellie the Elephant is researching historical figures who campaigned for equality. Name one Black historical figure and describe one significant action they took to challenge an injustice. (2 marks)

3. How can learning about the 'legacy' of a historical pioneer inspire people in the present day? (2 marks)

4. Max the Monkey is looking at a timeline of civil rights. Why is 'perseverance' such an important quality for people who want to change unfair laws? (2 marks)

5. If you were to create an exhibition about a hero of Black history, what three items or symbols would you include to represent their life and work? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a commemorative stamp that honours a historical figure of your choice. Include symbols that represent their greatest achievement or the field they worked in (e.g., science, art, or social justice).



Extension challenge: Research a Black Briton who has made a significant contribution to science or technology. Write a short 'Did You Know?' fact card about them, including at least two pieces of evidence for why their work is still important today.