

Black History Month: Celebrating Pioneers and Change-makers

Learning objective: To understand the significance of Black History Month and learn about influential figures who have shaped history through their achievements and courage.

Read each flashcard carefully. The front of the card asks a question or presents a term, and the back provides the answer. Use these to test your knowledge about the important contributions made by Black individuals throughout history.

What is the purpose of Black History Month in the UK?

It is an annual event held in October to celebrate and recognise the contributions, achievements, and history of Black people in the UK and around the world.

Who was Mary Seacole and why is she famous?

She was a Jamaican-Scottish nurse who set up the 'British Hotel' behind the lines during the Crimean War to provide food, comfort, and medical care to wounded soldiers.

What does the term 'Civil Rights' mean?

It refers to the basic rights of every person to be treated equally, fairly, and without discrimination, regardless of their race, gender, or background.

Who was Rosa Parks and what is she best known for?

She was an American civil rights activist who helped spark the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955 by refusing to give up her seat on a bus to a white passenger.

How did Walter Tull contribute to British history?

He was a professional footballer and became one of the first Black officers to lead white British soldiers into battle during the First World War.

What was the Windrush Generation?

The group of people who moved from Caribbean countries to the UK between 1948 and 1971 to help rebuild Britain after the Second World War.

Who was Nelson Mandela and what did he fight for?

He was a South African leader who spent many years in prison for his opposition to apartheid (a system of unfair racial segregation) and later became the first Black president of South Africa.

What is meant by the word 'Legacy'?

A legacy is something left behind by a person or event that continues to influence the world for future generations.

Who was Katherine Johnson?

A brilliant Black mathematician who worked for NASA and whose calculations were essential for the success of the first crewed spaceflights.

Why is it important to study Black history throughout the year?

To ensure that the diverse stories, struggles, and triumphs of all people are recognised as a central part of our shared human history, rather than just in one month.