

Celebrating Pioneers: Black History Month

Learning objective: To retrieve information from a text and make inferences about the significance of Black History Month.

Read the passage carefully, then answer the questions that follow in full sentences.

Every October, people across the United Kingdom celebrate Black History Month. It is a special time dedicated to learning about the many important contributions that Black people have made to our world throughout history. Ellie the elephant, who loves to study the past, explains that this month helps us recognise figures who were often overlooked in older history books.

During this time, we look at pioneers in science, medicine, art, and leadership. We remember individuals like Mary Seacole, who showed incredible bravery as a nurse, and many others who fought for fairness and equality. Learning these stories helps us understand our shared history better. It is not just about looking at the past; it is about celebrating the people who shaped our society today. By sharing these stories, we can all be inspired to make a positive difference in our own communities. Whether through reading books, visiting museums, or listening to stories, Black History Month encourages everyone to value the diverse voices that have built the world we live in today. It is a time for reflection, learning, and gratitude for those who paved the way.

Word bank: pioneer · contribution · achievements · history · celebrate · inspire

1. In which month is Black History Month celebrated in the United Kingdom? (1 mark)

2. Name one profession of a historical figure mentioned in the text. (1 mark)

3. Why does the author suggest that Black History Month is important for our future? (2 marks)

4. How might a person feel after learning about the pioneers mentioned in the text? (2 marks)

5. Do you think it is important to learn about different people in history? Explain why. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of a 'hero tree'. On the leaves, write the names of historical figures you have learned about, and draw roots showing the history that supports them.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a drawing of a 'hero tree'. The box is positioned below the drawing instruction and above the extension challenge text.

Extension challenge: Research one person who has made a positive impact on the world. Write three sentences explaining who they were and why they are remembered today.