

Black History Month: Pioneers and Progress

Learning objective: To recognise the significant contributions of Black individuals to British history and understand the purpose of Black History Month.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge about historical figures and the importance of celebrating Black history. Read the front of the card, try to answer, then check the back.

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

It is a dedicated time to celebrate and acknowledge the contributions and achievements of Black people throughout British history and across the globe.

Who was Mary Seacole?

A pioneering Jamaican-Scottish nurse who set up the 'British Hotel' behind the lines during the Crimean War to provide food and medical care for wounded soldiers.

Why is Walter Tull considered a significant historical figure?

He was one of the first Black professional footballers in Britain and became the first Black officer to lead white British troops into battle during World War I.

What was the Windrush generation?

The group of people who arrived in the UK from Caribbean countries between 1948 and 1971, invited by the British government to help rebuild the country after World War II.

How did Olaudah Equiano influence British history?

He was a formerly enslaved man who wrote an autobiography detailing his experiences, which became a powerful tool for the British abolitionist movement to end the slave trade.

Who was Ignatius Sancho?

An 18th-century writer, composer, and shopkeeper who was the first person of African descent known to have voted in a British general election.

What does the term 'Legacy' mean in a historical context?

The long-lasting impact or influence that a person or event leaves behind for future generations to learn from.

True or False: Black History Month is only about the history of the United States.

False. In the UK, Black History Month focuses specifically on Black British history and the lived experiences of Black people in the UK.

Name a way in which Black musicians have influenced British culture.

Through the development of genres like British jazz, reggae, and grime, which have shaped the modern British music landscape.

Why do we study the lives of historical figures like these?

To gain a more complete and accurate understanding of British history and to appreciate the diverse range of people who have helped shape the nation.