Black History: Trailblazers and Pioneers

Learning objective: To identify and illustrate the contributions of significant figures from Black history who helped shape modern society and civil rights.

In this activity, you will create a commemorative poster celebrating a historical pioneer. Choose one figure from your research, such as Mary Seacole, Olaudah Equiano, or Rosa Parks. Use the drawing space to depict them in a setting relevant to their work, and use the word bank to label key items in your illustration.

Draw: Create a portrait of a historical pioneer in a realistic or illustrative style. The drawing should feature the person in their 'element'—for example, surrounded by books if they were a writer, or in a historic setting relevant to their life. Use clear lines and ensure the figure is the focal point of the page. Include labels pointing to specific details that represent their achievements, such as a medicine bag, a petition, or a symbol of their advocacy.

Label words: Pioneer · Resilience · Civil Rights · Legacy · Inspiration · Determination

Steps:

1. Identify one specific challenge your chosen historical figure faced and explain how they overcame it.
2. Label your drawing with at least three words from the word bank that best represent the character you have chosen.
3. Why is it important to remember the contributions of Black pioneers in our curriculum today?

4. Step 1: Draw your chosen historical figure in the centre of the page. Step 2: Draw a background that represents their main achievement (e.g., a hospital tent for Mary Seacole or a bus for Rosa Parks).

5. In the corner of your drawing, write a one-sentence quote that you think captures the spirit of this person's work.