Black History Month: Key Figures and Events Flashcards

Learning objective: To identify key figures and significant events in Black British history and understand the purpose of Black History Month.

Cut out these cards and fold them in half so the question is on one side and the answer is on the other. Use them with a friend or family member to test your knowledge! Pip the caterpillar loves learning new words like 'heritage' and 'legacy' while studying these cards.

What is Black History Month?

Black History Month: An annual event held every October in the UK to celebrate and recognise the contributions and achievements of Black people throughout history.

Who was Mary Seacole?

Mary Seacole: A Jamaican-born nurse who travelled to the Crimea at her own expense to set up the 'British Hotel' and care for sick and injured soldiers during the Crimean War.

What was the Empire Windrush?

Empire Windrush: A ship that arrived at Tilbury Docks in June 1948, bringing hundreds of people from the Caribbean to help rebuild Britain after the Second World War.

Who was Olaudah Equiano?

Olaudah Equiano: An enslaved man who bought his own freedom and wrote a famous autobiography in 1789 that helped people understand the horrors of slavery and support its abolition.

What was the Bristol Bus Boycott of 1963?

Bristol Bus Boycott: A protest against a bus company that refused to hire Black or Asian drivers. It successfully led to a change in policy and influenced the UK's first Race Relations Act.

Who was John Blanke?

John Blanke: A Black trumpeter who performed in the royal courts of both King Henry VII and King Henry VIII in the early 16th century.

Who was Walter Tull?

Walter Tull: A professional footballer for Tottenham Hotspur and Northampton Town who became the first Black officer to lead British soldiers into battle during the First World War.

What did the Race Relations Act of 1965 do?

Race Relations Act 1965: The first law in the UK to make it illegal to discriminate against someone because of their race or ethnicity in public places.

Who was Learie Constantine?

Learie Constantine: A famous West Indian cricketer and politician who successfully sued a London hotel for racial discrimination, helping to pave the way for equality laws in Britain.

Why is Black History Month celebrated in October in the UK?

October: It was chosen in 1987 by Akyaaba Addai-Sebo because it is a time when children are back at school and can learn about the history and heritage of Africa and the Caribbean.

Who was Dr. Harold Moody?

Dr. Harold Moody: A doctor who moved to London from Jamaica and founded the League of Coloured Peoples in 1931 to campaign for equal rights and support Black people in Britain.