Black History Month: Celebrating Trailblazers and Change-makers

Learning objective: To recognize the achievements, contributions, and historical impact of Black individuals in British and global history.

Welcome! Join Ellie the elephant, who has a brilliant memory for history, as we explore some incredible stories. Read each question carefully and select or write your best answer. Good luck!

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.Mary Seacole, 4.B, 5.True, 6.D, 7.False, 8.Rosa Parks, 9.True, 10.Leadership.
Ellie's historical note: Black History Month is a time to honor the resilience and achievements of Black people throughout history, ensuring their stories are woven into the tapestry of our shared past.

Word bank: Mary Seacole · Windrush · Activism · Innovation · Inspiration · Pioneers · Legacy · Equality

1. 1. Which pioneering nurse set up the 'British Hotel' in the Crimea to care for wounded soldiers? A) Florence Nightingale B) Elizabeth Garrett Anderson C) Mary Seacole* D) Edith Cavell (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: The HMT Empire Windrush arrived in Britain in 1948, marking the start of a new era of migration from the Caribbean. (1 mark)

3. 3. Who is often celebrated as a Jamaican-born businesswoman and healer who provided comfort and medicine during the Crimean War? (One word answer) (1 mark)

4. 4. What was the primary goal of the Civil Rights Movement in the mid-20th century? A) To build more schools B) To secure legal equality and end segregation* C) To discover new countries D) To change the currency (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: Black History Month is celebrated in the UK during the month of October. (1 mark)

6. 6. Which of these individuals is famous for their role in the Montgomery Bus Boycott? A) Benjamin Banneker B) Nelson Mandela C) Martin Luther King Jr. D) Both B and C* (1 mark)

7. 7. True or False: Black history is only relevant to people of African or Caribbean heritage. (1 mark)

8. 8. Who famously refused to give up their seat on a bus in Alabama in 1955, sparking a major movement for equality? (Two word answer) (1 mark)

9. 9. True or False: Innovation and scientific discovery have been significantly advanced by Black inventors throughout history. (1 mark)

10. 10. Which quality describes a person who inspires others to work towards positive change in their community? (One word answer) (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a commemorative plaque for a historical figure you have learned about today. Include their name, one key achievement, and a symbol that represents their contribution to history.

Extension challenge: 1. Explain why it is vital for a national curriculum to include a diverse range of historical voices and perspectives. 2. Compare and contrast the methods used by different civil rights activists; how did their approaches differ? 3. Justify your answer: In your opinion, which historical figure had the most significant impact on modern British society? 4. What might happen to our collective understanding of history if we only studied the stories of those in power? 5. Research a local Black historical figure in your town or city and write a short biography. 6. Propose a plan for a school-wide project that celebrates diversity throughout the entire year, rather than just in October.