



February 2022

NAF celebrates diversity across the network and invites you to honor the 400-year history of Black Americans. Since culture is vibrant year-round, NAF encourages the network to expand their learning about Black History beyond February.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

HOW CAN CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY SERVE AS A VEHICLE FOR SOCIAL CHANGE?



As you engage with these resources and activities, remember to Take Charge of Your Learning, which includes these four phases:



REFLECT

Think deeply about your skill sets, learning goals, and purpose. Return to this phase throughout the process.



STRETCH

Engage in learning beyond the bell to expand your knowledge and skills.



INNOVATE

Create solutions for real-world problems you are passionate about and want to solve.



SHOWCASE

Share your innovative solutions to the world in a powerful way.



REFLECT

Think deeply about your social awareness, perspectives, and relationship with your culture and those of others.

ASK YOURSELF:

- What is [Black History Month like Around the World?](#)
- What was your most memorable Black History celebration? What did you learn and how did it impact you?
- Explore a "[Searchable Museum: A place to explore history and culture through an African American lens](#)". As you go through the museum, what more would you like to learn about Black/African-American history?
- Consider, "[How Can We Break Mental Health Barriers in Communities of Color?](#)"

Reflect on these questions and consider your responses as you continue.



STRETCH

Engage deeper in learning through your own initiative to expand your knowledge and skills.

- Analyze primary sources of key documents in Black history. What is their enduring impact on society?
- Who should be honored and celebrated during BHM and isn't? Analyze how and why certain individuals are elevated while others are not.
- With your peers, [jigsaw-read](#) "[A Great Moral and Social Force](#)," share what you read with each other, and have a discussion on why it's important to celebrate Black institutions.
- [Investigate](#) your own family roots and history if you are Black or learn about the family history of a Black friend, neighbor or mentor.
- What was the significance of the [radio](#) for Blacks in the 1920s?
- How did the [afro hairstyle](#) become a symbol of Black pride, solidarity, and empowerment?

CELEBRATING CHANGE MAKERS: PAST & PRESENT

Ursula Burns

a champion of STEM and the first Black woman to be a CEO of a Fortune 500 company



Kristin Kitchen

a hotelier dedicated to supporting communities and amplifying Black culture and history



Solomon Carter Fuller

the first Black psychiatrist and pioneer of Alzheimer's disease and mental health



Tyler Perry

a billionaire entrepreneur changing the face of Hollywood and opening doors for others



Jerry Lawson

a revolutionary engineer who developed the first cartridge-based video game console





INNOVATE

Create solutions for real-world problems you are passionate about and want to solve. Choose one of the options below:

Choice 1: What is your dream for America? Create a speech or infographic.

Choice 2: Write a bill that will benefit the African American community.

Choice 3:
Create a virtual tour guide of African-American history, in your local area.



Elliott Eddie was the inventor and founder of The Entrepreneur Game, an award-winning board game.

Choice 4:
View Celebrate Black History. Pick a topic that inspires you to contribute to your Black community.



SHOWCASE

Share your learning with the world in one (or more) of these ways:

Choice 1: Create a YouTube video that details your learning through the project challenge.

Choice 2: Create a blog or a social media campaign that highlights your project and learning journey.

Choice 3: Create a career-readiness digital portfolio using Bulb or Google Slides that showcases your project and learning journey.



Sidney Poitier, who passed away January 6, 2022, was an award-winning actor, director, and activist. He helped change Hollywood by actively rejecting offensive racial stereotypes because he felt it was his responsibility to uphold Black excellence.

Choice 5: Produce a PechaKucha (a 400-second visual story) that showcases your project and learning journey.

Choice 4: Code or create a simple webpage to showcase your project. Consider Replit or Wix.

Choice 6: Showcase your project in a format of your choosing.