

**Title: Black History Month**

**Grade Level:** K - 5

**Subject/Content:** Social Studies

**Summary of Lesson:** Students will learn about African-American leaders in United States history.

**Focus Question:** How have African Americans impacted our society?

**Database(s):** *Kids InfoBits* or *Research In Context*

**Steps/Activities by student(s):**

### **Early Elementary Option**

1. Search for images of African Americans in *Kids InfoBits*. Access images by selecting "People" > "Ethnic Groups" > "African Americans" > "Pictures" from the main menu of the database.
2. Search for bios to accompany the images. Select "People" > "Ethnic Groups" > "African Americans" > "Books."
3. Set up classroom TV or Smartboard for student viewing of images (pictures may also be shown directly from website).
4. Each day during Black History Month share one image and summary from the database during circle or story time.
5. With each day's lesson discuss with students the importance of the person addressed and their impact on our culture.

### **Upper Elementary Option**

1. Assign student images to research in pairs using the Gale *Research in Context* database.
2. Students will create a poster about their assigned person using the research.
3. Students will present their research and poster to the class.
4. Students will create a hallway display using their completed posters.

**Outcome:** The school community will be informed of the significance and contributions of African Americans in U.S. history.

**Related Activities:** If school announcements take place students may share their presentations with the entire school. As an alternate upper elementary students may present their posters to younger classes.

### **Content Standard(s):**

- What are the benefits of diversity in the United States?
- What dispositions or traits of character are important to the preservation and improvement of American democracy?
- How can Americans participate in their government?

### **Performance Indicators:**

- At Level 1, the student is able to:
  - Identify significant Black Americans.
- At Level 2, the student is able to:
  - Explain the contributions of these people.
- At Level 3, the student is able to:
  - Explain how Black Americans have benefited our society.

### **Computer Literacy and Usage Standards 9-12:**

- The student will develop skills using a variety of computer resources to increase productivity, support creativity, conduct and evaluate research and improve communications.

### **ISTE NETS for Students**

- Use telecommunications and online resources (e.g., e-mail, online discussions, Web environments) to participate in collaborative problem-solving activities for the purpose of developing solutions or products for audiences inside and outside the classroom. (4, 5)

### **Information Power; Information Literacy Standards 1-4:**

- **Standard 1:** The student who is information literate accesses information efficiently and effectively.
- **Standard 3:** The student who is information literate uses information accurately and creatively.
- **Standard 7:** The student who contributes positively to the learning community and to society is information literate and recognizes the importance of information to a democratic society.