



Flint Community Schools
Inter-Office Memo
Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Social Studies Department

DATE: January 28, 2008

TO: All Building Principals
All Building Assistant Principals
Content Coordinators
Social Studies & ELA Department Chairpersons

Academic Coaches
21st Century Director
Bridges Director

FROM: Naomi Bohannon, Social Studies Coordinator

RE: African American History Month
Theme: Uncommon Biographies & Historical Sources

This memo serves the purpose of providing suggested activities/sources for African American History Month. These are a few of many activities/opportunities to support African American History Month. The theme is the same as last year's "Uncommon Biographies and Historical Sources" to help students and teachers get acquainted with new biographies, places, or events relevant to African Americans they are least familiar with. Please forward to all teachers and staff.

Finally, **please remember to provide a brief summary of your schools' participation in African American History Month to the Office of Curriculum and Instruction, Attention: Lisa Padilla no later than Friday, March 7, 2008.**

I. **Uncommon Biographies or Facts**

- Philip Reid, (<http://www.socialstudies.org/lessons>) Middle Level Learning
- Bessie Coleman, (<http://blackquest.com/link.htm>), "Nobody, Owns the Sky" by Reeve Lindbergh (see Title I teacher or available at the Flint Public Library)
- Henry O. Tanner, *(<http://americanart.si.edu/collections/exhibits/tanner/index.html>) "Artist"
- Uncommon facts on well known leaders such as M.L. King and *Rosa Parks

II. **Historical Relationships**

Frederick Douglass & President Lincoln

- **Frederick Douglass' Letter to Mary Todd Lincoln, http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/exhibits/douglass_exhibit/index.html
- **An Unusual Friendship (Douglass and Lincoln), <http://www.rense.com/general63/friend.htm>
- **Abolitionist Role Play, <http://www.lib.rochester.edu/index.cfm?PAGE=2916>

Phillis Wheatley/George Washington

- **Slave Poet of Colonial America, http://womenshistory.about.com/library/bio/blbio_phillis_wheatley.htm
- **Phillis Wheatley, <http://www.lkwdpl.org/wihohio/whea-phi.htm>

pc: Eugene Rutledge
Shelly Umphrey
Cheryl Tate

NB/African American History Month 2008

Naomi Bohannon, Social Studies Coordinator
Flint Community Schools
Office of Academics Central
923 E. Kearsley Street, Flint, MI 48503
Phone: (810) 760-1172 or (810) 760-1245
FAX: (810) 760-5100
E-mail: nbohannon@flintschools.org

York/Lewis & Clark Expedition

- **What About York?, http://www.lewisandclarkexhibit.org/4_0_0/
- **York: The Fallout Over Freedom, <http://www.lewis-clark.org/content/content-channel.asp?ChannelID=166>
- **York--William Clark's Man Servant, <http://lewisandclarktrail.com/york.htm>
- <http://www.nps.gov/archive/jeff/LewisClark2/CorpsOfDiscovery/TheOthers/Civilians/York.htm>
- York--The Forgotten Hero, <http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/lewisandclark/people/york.html>

Martin Luther King/Mahatma Gandhi/John F. Kennedy/Lyndon B. Johnson

- ** <http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/USAkingML.htm> , *King/Kennedy/Johnson*
- ** http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17451_18670_18793-53757--,00.html

III. Historical Documents of Significant Impact

- Emancipation Proclamation (1863)
- 13th Amendment: Abolishes Slavery (1865)
- 14th Amendment: Extends citizenship to blacks
- 15th Amendment: Gave the rights to vote to former slaves and free blacks (1870)
- Voting Rights Acts of 1965
- 24th Amendment: Abolished the poll tax (1966)

IV. Additional African American History Websites

- <http://www.exploredc.org>
- www.ed-u.com/slave-freedom.htm
- http://www.kn.pacbell.com/wired/BHM/bh_hotlist.html
- ** <http://www.si.umich.edu/CHICO/Harlem/index.html> *Harlem Renaissance*
- **African Presence in America, 1492-1992: Online Exhibition, <http://www.si.umich.edu/CHICO/Schomburg/>
- * <http://www.preschoolrainbow.org/black-history.htm>
- * <http://fun.familyeducation.com/black-history-month/holidays-and-celebrations/32871.html>
- ** <http://americanhistory.si.edu/brown/history/index.html>, *Brown vs. Board*
- * http://www.pbs.org/wnet/jimcrow/stories_events_morgan.html (Bus Segregation Defiance before Rosa Parks)

Area Events of Celebration

Flint Cultural Center Celebrates: African American Heritage and Culture (2008)
(*Please encourage all staff, parents and students to attend.*)

Strategies (may be applied to all of the above categories)

- Read Aloud
- KWL
- Reciprocal Teaching
- Write a summary

NOTE:

Some of the above historical sources can be used as informational resources for teachers to verbally share with students

Websites Researched by:

- * Jerome Carter
- ** LaNesha DeBardelaben

pc: Eugene Rutledge
Shelly Umphrey
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