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**Resources for Celebrating Black History Month**

**By Susan Dunn**

**Resources for Celebrating Black History Month by Susan Dunn, MA, The EQ Coach**

Black History month in February is an opportunity to broaden your understanding of the role of African-Americans in history. Here are some resources to help you and your family learn more and take part in the celebration.

1. Start by taking the Black past quiz on familyeducation.com ( <http://www.familyeducation.com/quiz/0,1399,1-4888,00.html?relinks> ).
2. Another great resource is [www.blackhistory.com](http://www.blackhistory.com) .

There you can purchase videos such as "The Black West" or "Abubakari: The Explorer Kind of Mali." These are winners of the Gold Apple from the national Educational media Association, Telly Award.

They also have activity books, books, candy, foodand holders, celebration items, clothing andaccessories, drinkware and tableware, keychains and magnets, posters, printed handouts, programs, ribbons, pins and buttons, school and stationery supplies and writing instruments.

You can add your stories, articles and researchpapers to their online collection.

Be sure and check out the Multicultural sectionwhere you'll find American cultures for childrenvideos, American history, holidays for children(Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Chinese New year,Cinco de Mayo), multicultural peoples of North America and more.

3. On this site ( <http://www.euronet.nl/users/jubo/february.html> ), you'll find multigenerational ways of celebrating, and a great list of stories, poems, song and art by Afro-Americans.
4. The African-American Mosaic ( <http://lcweb.loc.gov/exhibits/african/intro.html> ), A Library of Congress Resource Guide for the study of Black history & culture, includes many resources, including ex-slave narratives.

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5. The list of inventions by Blacks is truly amazing. Go here to read about them:  
<http://www.everythingpreschool.com/homes/blackhistory/list.htm> .

You're probably familiar with George Washington Carver, but did you know Alfred Benjamin invented stainless steel pads; John A .Burr invented the lawn mower; George Carruthers invented the image converter radiation detector; L.F. Brown invented the horse bridle bit; and Sarah Boone invented the ironing board?

6. The Harlem Renaissance was an important event in the history of literature, knowledge and arts in the US. You can read about it here:

<http://www.liunet.edu/cwis/cwp/library/aavaahp.htm#harlem> .

Dr. Alain Leroy Locke, a native of Philadelphia and magna cum laude graduate of Harvard in 1907, is considered the driving force behind the artists of this era.

A Phi Beta Kappa, he was also the first African-American Rhodes Scholar. He studied Greek and Philosophy at Oxford and received his Ph.D. from Harvard in 1918. He was the author of "The New Negro," and "The Negro in Art," celebrating African-Americans in the arts.

7. African Americans have figured prominently in the arts, and here you can see a library of works:  
<http://www.liunet.edu/cwis/cwp/library/aavaahp.htm> .

Take a look at the art of Thomas Blackshear ( <http://www.blackshearonline.com> ), the prolific works of Edward Mitchell Bannister ( [http://nmaa-ryder.si.edu/cgi-bin/search/isearch.pl?DB=pcdb\\_images&FORMAT=one&FPASS=N&FHIT=1&ESET=RECORD&QUERY=LAST/Bannister+and+FIRST/Edward](http://nmaa-ryder.si.edu/cgi-bin/search/isearch.pl?DB=pcdb_images&FORMAT=one&FPASS=N&FHIT=1&ESET=RECORD&QUERY=LAST/Bannister+and+FIRST/Edward) ), "Shot Gun Third Ward #1, by John Biggers ( [http://nmaa-ryder.si.edu/images/1987/1987.56.1\\_1b.jpg](http://nmaa-ryder.si.edu/images/1987/1987.56.1_1b.jpg) ), Elizabeth Catlett's "Singing Head" ( [http://nmaa-ryder.si.edu/images/1989/1989.52\\_1b.jpg](http://nmaa-ryder.si.edu/images/1989/1989.52_1b.jpg) ), "Southern Gate" by Eldzier Cortor ( [http://nmaa-ryder.si.edu/cgi-bin/search/isearch.pl?DB=pcdb\\_images&FPASS=N&FORMAT=one&FHIT=1&ESET=RECORD&QUERY=LAST/CORTOR++and+FIRST/ELDZIER+](http://nmaa-ryder.si.edu/cgi-bin/search/isearch.pl?DB=pcdb_images&FPASS=N&FORMAT=one&FHIT=1&ESET=RECORD&QUERY=LAST/CORTOR++and+FIRST/ELDZIER+) ), and start here for the many paintings of Jacob Lawrence ( [http://nmaa-ryder.si.edu/cgi-bin/search/isearch.pl?DB=pcdb\\_images&FPASS=N&FORMAT=one&FHIT=1&ESET=RECORD&QUERY=LAST/Lawrence+and+FIRST/Jacob+](http://nmaa-ryder.si.edu/cgi-bin/search/isearch.pl?DB=pcdb_images&FPASS=N&FORMAT=one&FHIT=1&ESET=RECORD&QUERY=LAST/Lawrence+and+FIRST/Jacob+) ).

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9. On [www.who2.com](http://www.who2.com), you can read the profiles of prominent Blacks.

Included are civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Internet pioneer, Phillip Amezagwali, Contralto

Marian Anderson, Abolitionist Frederick Douglass, Physician and plasma innovator, Charles Drew, M.D., Baseball pioneer, Jackie Robinson, Home run champ, Hank Aaron, Olympic sprinters, Jesse Owens and Wilma Rudolph, blues legend, Robert Johnson, Oscar-winning actor, Sidney Poitier, jazz composer Duke Ellington, bandleader, Count Basie, author and poet, Maya Angelou, blues singer Big Mama Thornton, scientist, George Washington Carver, arctic explorer, Matthew Henson, and gospel singer, Mahalia Jackson.

10. Why not schedule the African-American Drama Company to come to your town for a celebration? (<http://www.african-american-drama-company.org/pages/1/index.htm> ).

With their play comes a full day of classes and workshops FREE, allowing people of all races to see

their personal connection to African American culture. They offer an enjoyable way to become more familiar with African American accomplishment. Producing in any space large enough to accommodate the anticipated audience. Low technical requirements, exceedingly high performance, they say.

11. Read the ten most dramatic events in African-American history here – <http://www.black-history.biz/black-history/> .

None

### **Ways to Celebrate Black History Month**

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Here are some sites and resources for celebrating the important history and contributions of Blacks.

1. Check out some videos on Black history, such as "The Black West" or "Abubakari: The Explorer King of Mali". These are recipients of the Gold Apple from the National Educational Media Association, Telly Award.

[http://www.blackhistory.com/cgi-bin/st\\_prod.html?p\\_prodid=1&sid=3pe3@C01DJcq0@p-30103109227.e3](http://www.blackhistory.com/cgi-bin/st_prod.html?p_prodid=1&sid=3pe3@C01DJcq0@p-30103109227.e3)

Including comprehensive support materials, 16 reproducible cross-

## Resources for Celebrating Black History Month

curriculum activities and activity guides.

2. Get some celebrate diversity life savers and other multicultural celebration aids such as education posters, tshirts and videos: <http://www.guidancechannel.com/marketplace/default.asp?fn=pID&catID=7&pID=400>

3. Multigenerational celebrating with songs, books. <http://www.euronet.nl/users/jubo/february.html>

4. Take the Black past quiz: <http://www.familyeducation.com/quiz/0,1399,1-4888,00.html?relinks>

5. The African–American Mosaic, A Library of Congress Resource Guide for the study of Black history & culture, including ex–slave narratives: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/exhibits/african/intro.html>

Read about inventions made by Blacks: <http://www.everythingpreschool.com/hemes/blackhistory/list.htm>

Did you know Alfred Benjamin invented stainless steel pads; John A. Burr invented the lawn mower; George Carruthers invented the image converter radiation detector; L.F. Brown invented the horse bridle bit; and Sarah Boone invented the ironing board?

7. Go to the Harlem Renaissance Page: <http://www.jeannepasero.com/harlem.html>

8. African Americans in the Visual Arts: <http://www.liunet.edu/cwis/cwp/library/aavaahp.htm>

9. Archives of African American Music and Culture selected list of Internet resources for African American Music: <http://www.indiana.edu/~aaamc/websites.html>

10. A wonderful link with profiles of prominent Blacks: <http://www.who2.com/blackhistory.html>

Read about Marian Anderson, contralto; Jackie Robinson, baseball pioneer; Wilma Rudolph, Olympia sprinter; Sidney Poitier, Oscar–award winning actor; Maya Angelou, poet; George Washington Carver,

inventor, and other important Black figures in our history.

Susan Dunn, The EQ Coach, offers coaching and Internet courses on emotional intelligence, strengths, optimism and resilience. Visit her on the web at [www.susandunn.cc](http://www.susandunn.cc) and <mailto:sdunn@susandunn.cc> for FREE ezine.



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