



Greetings!

Black History Month is here and we have media-rich resources to bring African-American history to life through February and beyond. --Kit Lively, KERA Education Director, klively@kera.org

Black History Resources From KERA

KERA's **educational toolkits** help parents and teachers discuss complex or sensitive topics with students. The toolkits provide links to videos, discussion questions, lesson plans, background essays and much more. Click on "Race in American History and Culture" for information on prominent African-American writers and activists as well as the role of race in K-12 and higher education. [KERA educational toolkits](#)



Watch *Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of Black Colleges and Universities*, a documentary about the importance of historically black colleges to the country's social and intellectual history. It airs **February 19, at 9 p.m. on KERA.** [Learn more and watch a trailer of Tell Them We Are Rising](#)



Don't forget to check our new [Pinterest account](#) for more resources to inform thoughtful discussions.

Materials From PBS LearningMedia (Free and TEKS-aligned)

Lesson Plans in History Series by Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

Harvard scholar Henry Louis Gates, Jr., recounted the full trajectory of African-American history in his groundbreaking series *The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross*. The series explored the evolution of the African-American people, as well as the many cultural institutions, political strategies, and religious and social perspectives they developed — forging their own history, culture and society against unimaginable odds. Using video clips from the series, this collection of lesson plans addresses a wide range of themes of the African-American experience from 1500 to the present. (Middle & high school)



[‘The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross’](#)

March on Washington and its Role in the Civil Rights Movement

The March PBS documentary explored the events leading up to The March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, which drew more than 200,000 people to the National Mall on August 28, 1963. These lesson plans, video clips and other resources provide a behind-the-scenes look at the effort to organize this key event in the American Civil Rights Movement. They also examine the political and social events that brought the march to fruition. (Middle & high school)



[‘The March on Washington’](#)

Issues That Endure, Then and Now

While students today may think of the Civil Rights Movement as part of the distant past, it's clear that many of the problems that fueled that fight are still with us. The "Civil Rights: Then and Now" collection of videos, documents, and primary sources lends context to the events and leaders that defined the Civil Rights Movement's first three decades (1954-1985). These resources also capture the issues and activists involved in the struggle today—from voting rights to protest movements to inequities tied to poverty. (Middle & high school)



[‘Civil Rights: Then and Now’](#)

Teaching Black History With the PBS NewsHour

PBS created NewsHour EXTRA to engage students in current events and provide tools for teaching about news, starting with stories from the acclaimed nightly program PBS NewsHour. This site has a good selection of materials related to black history, including a lesson plan called "Martin Luther King Jr.'s 'I Have a Dream' speech as a work of literature." In addition to lesson plans, the site has video clips and many creative activities to encourage students to think more deeply about current events and their significance in the broader context of history. (Middle & high school)



- [Black history resources PBS NewsHour EXTRA](#)
- [PBS NewsHour on LearningMedia](#)

Significant Contributors to American History

The **American Icons** collection includes several African-American activists, thought leaders, athletes and writers who helped shape social history for Americans of all races. Each lesson plan includes a short video, as well as written and visual primary source activities and a culminating activity. The videos are designed to help students understand how the character traits of these select Americans – from Sojourner Truth to Frederick Douglass to Muhammad Ali -- contributed to their achievements. (Grades 3-7)



[Explore 'American Icons'](#)

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Questions? Suggestions? News to share? Contact Kit Lively: klively@kera.org or 214-740-9344

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