

WELCOME

Hi, teachers.

This pack gives you a week-by-week, ready-to-print kit for Black History Month — built to fit how classrooms actually run.

What's inside

- **4 themed word searches** — Civil Rights, Inventors & Scientists, Artists/Authors/Athletes, and Modern Trailblazers
- **10 trailblazer mini-biographies** — 1 page each, kid-friendly reading level, with a discussion prompt at the bottom
- **Answer keys** for every word search
- **Brand-clean design** — Poppins font, high contrast, prints great in B&W or color

How to use it

- **Week 1:** Civil Rights word search · 2–3 trailblazer bios as morning meeting reads · discussion prompts as exit tickets
- **Week 2:** Inventors & Scientists word search · 2–3 bios · prompts as journal entries
- **Week 3:** Artists/Athletes word search · 2–3 bios · invite a student to read each bio aloud
- **Week 4:** Modern Trailblazers word search · final bios · close-of-month reflection essay

For homeschool, libraries, and after-school

Treat the pack like a deck — print the pages, mix the order, use the bios as bedtime reads or library bulletin-board features. It's licensed for personal, classroom, and family use.

— Ferrai White

Founder, Not Just a Puzzle

WORD SEARCH

Civil Rights Leaders

The voices and visionaries who changed America.

R	E	H	T	U	L	N	I	T	R	A	M	S	Q
K	U	I	G	V	N	W	K	H	I	M	S	E	V
U	O	Y	X	S	I	J	O	K	Y	E	K	C	A
O	L	L	M	R	T	T	S	D	C	L	R	R	G
Q	E	E	L	E	S	I	A	E	L	L	A	C	H
L	I	K	O	V	U	J	M	F	H	A	P	O	R
W	N	O	C	E	R	J	L	T	C	B	A	Z	U
Q	N	T	L	R	D	A	E	V	R	A	S	R	J
V	A	S	A	A	R	D	S	E	A	K	O	I	D
D	F	X	M	G	A	R	E	I	M	E	R	J	T
G	W	K	G	D	Y	V	U	I	V	R	Q	P	I
B	C	U	N	E	A	I	B	O	A	K	Y	E	U
I	F	X	O	M	B	R	T	W	N	R	A	D	C
W	J	O	H	N	L	E	W	I	S	E	R	B	L

FIND THESE 12 WORDS

- ☐ MARTIN LUTHER
- ☐ BAYARD RUSTIN
- ☐ MEDGAR EVERS
- ☐ ROSA PARKS
- ☐ JOHN LEWIS
- ☐ FANNIE LOU
- ☐ ELLA BAKER
- ☐ MALCOLM X
- ☐ STOKELY
- ☐ SELMA
- ☐ MARCH
- ☐ VOTE

WORD SEARCH

Inventors & Scientists

Curiosity, innovation, and changing what was possible.

D	J	V	V	M	A	E	J	E	M	I	S	O	N
S	P	Q	V	J	B	H	M	T	B	A	G	J	G
Y	E	L	E	W	I	S	L	A	T	I	M	E	R
Y	I	J	K	D	A	P	X	N	F	E	M	R	W
H	Q	R	V	Z	L	C	M	X	B	N	A	O	C
K	S	R	E	S	A	L	N	T	U	N	A	E	P
N	I	L	S	O	R	C	L	E	A	H	C	I	M
S	T	R	A	F	F	I	C	L	I	G	H	T	M
W	H	T	A	B	A	I	C	I	R	T	A	P	U
N	J	G	E	O	R	G	E	C	A	R	V	E	R
D	M	A	R	E	K	L	A	W	M	A	D	A	M
K	F	Z	T	N	A	E	D	K	R	A	M	O	W
G	A	R	R	E	T	T	M	O	R	G	A	N	L
C	N	E	N	I	R	E	H	T	A	K	D	H	N

FIND THESE 12 WORDS

- ☐ MICHAEL CROSLIN
- ☐ GARRETT MORGAN
- ☐ GEORGE CARVER
- ☐ LEWIS LATIMER
- ☐ PATRICIA BATH
- ☐ TRAFFIC LIGHT
- ☐ MADAM WALKER
- ☐ MAE JEMISON
- ☐ KATHERINE
- ☐ MARK DEAN
- ☐ PEANUT
- ☐ LASER

WORD SEARCH

Artists, Authors & Athletes

Words, brushes, music, and movement.

Y	R	U	S	F	Y	E	N	Q	B	D	I	Q	E
J	F	F	K	W	N	H	L	J	E	Q	J	L	C
I	G	L	U	R	O	I	E	A	C	U	J	T	A
R	M	A	C	Q	S	U	F	C	N	S	S	P	E
F	A	N	J	V	I	T	J	O	O	X	T	O	K
S	Y	G	E	Z	R	B	A	B	Y	A	C	E	B
U	A	S	S	O	R	Y	C	L	E	S	I	T	U
G	A	T	S	R	O	Y	K	A	B	S	P	R	N
T	N	O	E	A	M	U	I	W	A	P	R	Y	U
R	G	N	O	N	I	J	E	R	U	J	I	P	H
Z	E	Z	W	E	N	V	S	E	R	E	N	A	M
J	L	O	E	A	O	C	W	N	B	F	C	O	N
P	O	O	N	L	T	G	K	C	T	E	E	K	W
K	U	X	S	E	L	M	E	E	Y	L	Q	R	D

FIND THESE 12 WORDS

- ☐ JACOB LAWRENCE
- ☐ TONI MORRISON
- ☐ MAYA ANGELOU
- ☐ JESSE OWENS
- ☐ ZORA NEALE
- ☐ LANGSTON
- ☐ BEYONCE
- ☐ SERENA
- ☐ JACKIE
- ☐ PRINCE
- ☐ POETRY
- ☐ ALI

WORD SEARCH

Modern Trailblazers

Today's leaders, makers, and changemakers.

F	B	B	A	R	A	C	K	O	B	A	M	A	M
S	Z	P	F	X	J	K	A	M	A	L	A	B	A
E	J	S	T	D	Y	O	P	R	A	H	K	I	T
L	J	O	U	R	E	Q	P	E	Q	O	J	H	I
I	G	Z	Y	D	L	K	F	X	O	N	U	U	I
B	W	F	R	A	R	X	K	Z	A	R	J	S	V
E	Y	G	O	F	I	D	T	T	G	U	M	N	Q
N	K	C	T	M	H	V	E	O	D	F	E	P	K
O	H	A	S	I	S	K	O	T	M	H	O	Y	I
M	K	J	I	S	X	D	S	A	C	I	U	L	W
I	H	B	H	V	D	O	J	F	M	E	V	Q	W
S	Y	M	I	C	H	E	L	L	E	J	L	W	D
U	L	E	B	R	O	N	J	L	T	H	H	E	E
P	S	T	A	C	E	Y	A	B	R	A	M	S	E

FIND THESE 12 WORDS

- ☐ STACEY ABRAMS
- ☐ BARACK OBAMA
- ☐ SIMONE BILES
- ☐ THURGOOD
- ☐ MICHELLE
- ☐ SHIRLEY
- ☐ KETANJI
- ☐ ELECTED
- ☐ HISTORY
- ☐ KAMALA
- ☐ LEBRON
- ☐ OPRAH

TRAILBLAZER

Frederick Douglass

1818–1895 · Abolitionist · Writer · Statesman

Born enslaved in Maryland, Frederick Douglass taught himself to read, escaped to freedom at age 20, and became one of the most powerful orators of the 19th century. His autobiography *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* (1845) helped fuel the abolitionist movement worldwide. He advised President Lincoln during the Civil War, championed women's suffrage, and never stopped insisting that every person, regardless of color or gender, deserved full citizenship.

"Once you learn to read, you will be forever free."

DISCUSSION PROMPT

Why do you think Frederick Douglass said reading would set you "forever free"? What do you read that opens your world?

TRAILBLAZER

Harriet Tubman

c.1822–1913 · Conductor of the Underground Railroad · Union spy

After escaping slavery in 1849, Harriet Tubman returned to the South at least 13 times and led roughly 70 enslaved people to freedom on the Underground Railroad. During the Civil War she served as a Union army scout and the first woman to lead an armed military raid in the United States — the Combahee River Raid, which freed more than 700 enslaved people in one night. She lived the rest of her life as a suffragist and caretaker for the elderly.

"I never ran my train off the track, and I never lost a passenger."

DISCUSSION PROMPT

Tubman knew every trip might be her last. What does that kind of courage look like in everyday life?

TRAILBLAZER

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

1929–1968 · Civil rights leader · Minister · Nobel laureate

A minister from Atlanta, Dr. King became the voice of the Civil Rights Movement at age 26 when he led the Montgomery Bus Boycott. He insisted on nonviolent resistance as both a moral and strategic choice. He organized the 1963 March on Washington where he delivered "I Have a Dream," helped win the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and received the Nobel Peace Prize that same year. He was assassinated in 1968 at age 39.

"The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice."

DISCUSSION PROMPT

Dr. King said the moral universe "bends toward justice" — but only because people pull on it. What's one small thing in your school or community you would pull toward?

TRAILBLAZER

Rosa Parks

1913–2005 · Civil rights activist · NAACP secretary

In 1955, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama bus, sparking the 381-day Montgomery Bus Boycott. Less well known: she had been an NAACP secretary for 12 years, had trained at the Highlander Folk School in civil disobedience, and had documented sexual violence against Black women across the South. Her refusal wasn't a tired-feet moment — it was a trained activist's deliberate stand.

"You must never be fearful about what you are doing when it is right."

DISCUSSION PROMPT

We often hear Rosa Parks was "too tired to move." The truth is different — she was prepared. What's the difference between courage on the spot and courage that's practiced over years?

TRAILBLAZER

Mae Jemison

1956–present · NASA astronaut · Physician · Engineer

In 1992, Mae Jemison became the first Black woman in space, orbiting Earth 127 times aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavour. Before NASA, she earned a chemical engineering degree from Stanford at 16, became a medical doctor, and served in the Peace Corps in Sierra Leone and Liberia. Today she leads the 100 Year Starship project, working on the technology that could send humans to another star.

"Never be limited by other people's limited imaginations."

DISCUSSION PROMPT

Mae Jemison studied chemistry, then became a doctor, then an astronaut, then a starship researcher. What's wrong with the question, "What do you want to BE when you grow up?"

TRAILBLAZER

George Washington Carver

c.1864–1943 · Agricultural scientist · Inventor · Educator

Born enslaved in Missouri, George Washington Carver overcame poverty and illness to become one of America's most influential scientists. At Tuskegee Institute he developed crop-rotation techniques that revived depleted Southern farmland and identified more than 300 uses for the peanut. He refused to patent most of his work — he believed agricultural knowledge should belong to the farmers who needed it. He advised three U.S. presidents.

"Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom."

DISCUSSION PROMPT

Carver gave away most of his discoveries instead of patenting them. Why might that be the more powerful choice?

TRAILBLAZER

Maya Angelou

1928–2014 · Poet · Memoirist · Civil rights activist

Maya Angelou survived a childhood of trauma and emerged as one of America's most loved writers. Her memoir *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* (1969) broke ground by writing honestly about race, sexual violence, and resilience. She worked alongside Dr. King and Malcolm X, wrote and recited the inaugural poem for President Clinton in 1993, and received over 50 honorary degrees. She danced, sang, taught, and never stopped insisting on dignity.

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

DISCUSSION PROMPT

Think of someone who made you feel important or seen. What did they actually do?

TRAILBLAZER

Thurgood Marshall

1908–1993 · First Black Supreme Court Justice · NAACP lawyer

Long before he sat on the Supreme Court, Thurgood Marshall won 29 of 32 cases he argued before it — including *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), which struck down "separate but equal" school segregation. He founded the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and traveled the South to defend Black clients in death-penalty cases under threat to his own life. In 1967 he became the first Black Justice of the United States Supreme Court, where he served for 24 years.

"In recognizing the humanity of our fellow beings, we pay ourselves the highest tribute."

DISCUSSION PROMPT

Marshall used the legal system to change the legal system. Where else have you seen someone change a system from inside it?

TRAILBLAZER

Madam C.J. Walker

1867–1919 · America's first self-made female millionaire

Born Sarah Breedlove to formerly enslaved parents, Madam C.J. Walker built a hair-care empire from the ground up — selling door-to-door, training thousands of Black women as "Walker Agents," and becoming America's first self-made female millionaire of any race. She used her wealth to fund the NAACP, Black colleges, and anti-lynching campaigns. Her motto: "I had to make my own living and my own opportunity. But I made it! Don't sit down and wait for opportunities to come."

"Don't sit down and wait for opportunities to come. Get up and make them."

DISCUSSION PROMPT

Madam Walker built a company AND used it as a platform for justice. What businesses today do that well?

TRAILBLAZER

Barack Obama

1961–present · 44th President of the United States

A community organizer in Chicago, then a constitutional law professor, Illinois state senator, and U.S. senator before becoming the first Black president of the United States in 2009. During eight years in office he signed the Affordable Care Act, ended the Iraq War, ordered the operation that killed Osama bin Laden, normalized relations with Cuba, and led the Paris Climate Accord. He received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2009.

"Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for."

DISCUSSION PROMPT

Obama often said "we are the ones we've been waiting for." What is your generation's "we"?

ANSWERS • PUZZLE 1

Civil Rights Leaders

R	E	H	T	U	L	N	I	T	R	A	M	S	Q
K	U	I	G	V	N	W	K	H	I	M	S	E	V
U	O	Y	X	S	I	J	O	K	Y	E	K	C	A
O	L	L	M	R	T	T	S	D	C	L	R	R	G
Q	E	E	L	E	S	I	A	E	L	L	A	C	H
L	I	K	O	V	U	J	M	F	H	A	P	O	R
W	N	O	C	E	R	J	L	T	C	B	A	Z	U
Q	N	T	L	R	D	A	E	V	R	A	S	R	J
V	A	S	A	A	R	D	S	E	A	K	O	I	D
D	F	X	M	G	A	R	E	I	M	E	R	J	T
G	W	K	G	D	Y	V	U	I	V	R	Q	P	I
B	C	U	N	E	A	I	B	O	A	K	Y	E	U
I	F	X	O	M	B	R	T	W	N	R	A	D	C
W	J	O	H	N	L	E	W	I	S	E	R	B	L

ANSWERS • PUZZLE 2

Inventors & Scientists

D	J	V	V	M	A	E	J	E	M	I	S	O	N
S	P	Q	V	J	B	H	M	T	B	A	G	J	G
Y	E	L	E	W	I	S	L	A	T	I	M	E	R
Y	I	J	K	D	A	P	X	N	F	E	M	R	W
H	Q	R	V	Z	L	C	M	X	B	N	A	O	C
K	S	R	E	S	A	L	N	T	U	N	A	E	P
N	I	L	S	O	R	C	L	E	A	H	C	I	M
S	T	R	A	F	F	I	C	L	I	G	H	T	M
W	H	T	A	B	A	I	C	I	R	T	A	P	U
N	J	G	E	O	R	G	E	C	A	R	V	E	R
D	M	A	R	E	K	L	A	W	M	A	D	A	M
K	F	Z	T	N	A	E	D	K	R	A	M	O	W
G	A	R	R	E	T	T	M	O	R	G	A	N	L
C	N	E	N	I	R	E	H	T	A	K	D	H	N

ANSWERS • PUZZLE 3

Artists, Authors & Athletes

Y	R	U	S	F	Y	E	N	Q	B	D	I	Q	E
J	F	F	K	W	N	H	L	J	E	Q	J	L	C
I	G	L	U	R	O	I	E	A	C	U	J	T	A
R	M	A	C	Q	S	U	F	C	N	S	S	P	E
F	A	N	J	V	I	T	J	O	O	X	T	O	K
S	Y	G	E	Z	R	B	A	B	Y	A	C	E	B
U	A	S	S	O	R	Y	C	L	E	S	I	T	U
G	A	T	S	R	O	Y	K	A	B	S	P	R	N
T	N	O	E	A	M	U	I	W	A	P	R	Y	U
R	G	N	O	N	I	J	E	R	U	J	I	P	H
Z	E	Z	W	E	N	V	S	E	R	E	N	A	M
J	L	O	E	A	O	C	W	N	B	F	C	O	N
P	O	O	N	L	T	G	K	C	T	E	E	K	W
K	U	X	S	E	L	M	E	E	Y	L	Q	R	D

ANSWERS • PUZZLE 4

Modern Trailblazers

F	B	B	A	R	A	C	K	O	B	A	M	A	M
S	Z	P	F	X	J	K	A	M	A	L	A	B	A
E	J	S	T	D	Y	O	P	R	A	H	K	I	T
L	J	O	U	R	E	Q	P	E	Q	O	J	H	I
I	G	Z	Y	D	L	K	F	X	O	N	U	U	I
B	W	F	R	A	R	X	K	Z	A	R	J	S	V
E	Y	G	O	F	I	D	T	T	G	U	M	N	Q
N	K	C	T	M	H	V	E	O	D	F	E	P	K
O	H	A	S	I	S	K	O	T	M	H	O	Y	I
M	K	J	I	S	X	D	S	A	C	I	U	L	W
I	H	B	H	V	D	O	J	F	M	E	V	Q	W
S	Y	M	I	C	H	E	L	L	E	J	L	W	D
U	L	E	B	R	O	N	J	L	T	H	H	E	E
P	S	T	A	C	E	Y	A	B	R	A	M	S	E

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