

WHY ARE WE CELEBRATING?



Black History Month gives us an opportunity to celebrate all of the wonderful contributions Black people have made to American culture, from science and math to music and literature to sports and politics, and more.

5 BLACK HISTORY MONTH FACTS:

- It's not a coincidence that Black
 History Month is celebrated in
 February. President Abraham Lincoln,
 who issued the Emancipation
 Proclamation in 1863, and Frederick
 Douglass, a celebrated abolitionist,
 both had February birthdays.
- When it started, the celebration was only a week long. In 1976, President Gerald Ford extended the period of recognition to a month.
- The Civil Rights Act was passed in 1964. It aimed to end discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin. It's one of our most important laws on civil rights.
- Each year, Black History Month has a theme. Past themes have included wellness, education, and family.
 This year's theme is resistance.
- Black History Month started in the United States. But it's also celebrated in Canada too. Ireland, the U.K., and the Netherlands celebrate Black History Month in October.



5 PEOPLE YOU SHOULD KNOW:

- Frederick Douglass: In the 1800s,
 Frederick Douglas escaped slavery and became a powerful advocate for human rights and equality.
- Rosa Parks: Rosa Parks helped spark the civil rights movement when she refused to give up her seat on the bus to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama.
- Martin Luther King Jr.: Martin Luther King Jr. is one of history's most important social activists. He helped lead the civil rights movement, and his 1963 "I Have a Dream" speech continues to inspire generations of people.
- Mae Jemison: An engineer, physician, and NASA astronaut, Mae Jemison became the first Black woman to ever travel into space in 1992, on the Space Shuttle Endeavor.
- Barack Obama: In 2008, Barack Obama was elected the first-ever Black president of the United States. He served as president from 2009 to 2017.

Black History Month Word SEARCH

Test your knowledge with our Black History Month word search! Find the following words hidden in the puzzle.

BARACK OBAMA CIVIL RIGHTS MAE JEMISON

BLACK HISTORY EQUALITY MARTIN LUTHER KING JR

CELEBRATION FEBRUARY ROSA PARKS

FREDERICK DOUGLASS

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Black History Month WORD SEARCH

ANSWER KEY

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