

MULTIGENERATIONAL
ACTIVITY JOURNAL & RESOURCE BOOK

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History Month is an annual observance originating in the United States. It has received official recognition from governments in the United States and Canada, and more recently has been observed in Ireland, and the United Kingdom.



TABLE OF
CONTENTS

S T O R I E S
I N H I G H L I G H T S
O F L E A D E R S H I P

28 STORIES IN 28 DAYS
HIGHLIGHTS OF LEADERSHIP

DAY 1	HARRY HOSIER
DAY 2	SOJOURNER TRUTH
DAY 3	FREDERICK DOUGLASS
DAY 4	HARRIET TUBMAN
DAY 5	CHARLES ALBERT TINDLEY
DAY 6	BOOKER T. WASHINGTON
DAY 7	IDA B. WELLS
DAY 8	MADAM C.J. WALKER
DAY 9	W.E.B. DU BOIS
DAY 10	MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE
DAY 11	BESSIE COLEMAN
DAY 12	ELLA JOSEPHINE BAKER
DAY 13	ROSA PARKS
DAY 14	ROSETTA THARPE
DAY 15	FANNIE LOU HAMER
DAY 16	LEONTINE T.C. KELLY
DAY 17	MARY JACKSON
DAY 18	JAMES BALDWIN
DAY 19	SHIRLEY CHISHOLM
DAY 20	MALCOM X
DAY 21	MAYA ANGELOU
DAY 22	MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
DAY 23	MUHAMMAD ALI
DAY 24	RUBY BRIDGES
DAY 25	MAE C. JEMISON
DAY 26	NEIL DEGRASSE TYSON
DAY 27	VENUS & SERENA WILLIAMS
DAY 28	AMANDA GORMAN



HARRY HOSIER

Methodist Preacher | Circuit Rider

c. 1750 – May 1806

Hosier was the first black preacher licensed to preach in the Methodist Church. When he was about 30 years old, he met Francis Asbury (famed Methodist preacher) and proceeded to spend the rest of his days traveling with Asbury as a circuit riding preacher. He and Richard Allen were the two (non-voting) African American representatives at the 1784 Christmas Conference, which officially organized American Methodism. His sermon, "The Barren Fig Tree," that was preached at Adam's Chapel in Fairfax County, Virginia, in May of 1781 was the first recorded Methodist sermon by a Black person in America. Hosier drew large, multiracial crowds who would come from near and far to hear him. The Methodist Church grew by leaps and bounds from the ministry offered by Harry Hosier.

SOJOURNER TRUTH

Abolitionist • Women's Rights Activist • Preacher

c. 1797 – November 26, 1883

Did you know?

Sojourner Truth was born with the name Isabella Baumfree. She was enslaved in Upper New York and separated from her family at age nine. She escaped with her infant daughter to freedom in 1826. She went to court to recover her son in 1828 and became the first black woman to win such a case against a white man.

In 1843, she was called by the Holy Spirit to preach the truth and renamed herself Sojourner Truth. She preached with conviction on the evils of slavery, fairness for the poor, women's rights, and prison reform. Her faith and preaching brought her into contact with abolitionists, women's rights crusaders, and even the Michigan State Legislature in a pursuit against capital punishment.

She never learned to read or write. In 1850, she dictated what would become her autobiography –*The Narrative of Sojourner Truth*—to Olive Gilbert, who assisted in its publication.

Sojourner Truth spent her final years in Michigan and preached at several churches throughout the area, including the First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo.



REFLECTION

Sojourner Truth had a lasting impact as a preacher, abolitionist, and women's rights advocate.
Write a letter to someone who has impacted your life.



Frederick Douglass



SOCIAL REFORMER, ABOLITIONIST, ORATOR, WRITER

c. February 14, 1818 – February 20, 1895

Douglass was an inspiration for the selection of February as Black History Month. While his actual date of birth is not known, he chose to celebrate each year on February 14.

He became a consultant to President Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War and advocated that former slaves could fight for the North and that the war itself should be a direct confrontation against slavery.

In the "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave, Written by Himself" (1845), his autobiography links freedom to the pursuit of literacy and is recognized as a literature classic. Douglass became the first black citizen to hold high rank in the U.S. government.



Harriet Tubman

ABOLITIONIST & CONDUCTOR OF THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD
c. March 1822 – March 10, 1913

Harriet's birth name was Araminta Ross. She took her mother's name, Harriet, when she first escaped the plantation she was enslaved at. Tubman is her married name.

The Underground Railroad was a network of people who worked in creating a safe passage for enslaved people searching for freedom. Harriet, along with two of her brothers, used this to escape.

During the Civil War, Harriet worked as a nurse. Later, she became a spy for the Union Army.

Harriet became a "conductor" for the Underground Railroad and helped free more hundreds of other enslaved people.

"I was the conductor of the Underground Railroad for eight years, and I can say what most conductors can't say — I never ran my train off the track and I never lost a passenger."

-Harriet Tubman-

CHARACTER STRENGTHS

Harriet Tubman had many character strengths that helped define her as an individual. Highlight your top 5 character strengths and write about how you demonstrate one of them:

	PERSEVERANCE		PERSPECTIVE
	GRATITUDE		BRAVERY
	KINDNESS		JUDGMENT
	ZEST		CURIOSITY
	LOVE		HONESTY
	LOVE OF LEARNING		HUMILITY
	CREATIVITY		PRUDENCE
	FAIRNESS		HUMOR
	TEAMWORK		LEADERSHIP
	FORGIVENESS		SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE
	HOPE		SELF-REGULATION
	SPIRITUALITY		APPRECIATION OF BEAUTY



CHARLES ALBERT TINDLEY

GOSPEL MUSIC COMPOSER | METHODIST MINISTER

July 7, 1851 – July 26, 1933

Did you know?

* In 1902 Tindley was appointed pastor of Calvary Methodist Church where he served until his death in 1933. Under his leadership, the church experienced great growth with over 7,000 members of multi-racial backgrounds. Upon building a new church building, the congregation changed its name over Tindley's protest to Tindley Temple Methodist Church.

* Tindley was a noted songwriter and composer of gospel hymns and is recognized as one of the founding fathers of American gospel music. Five of his hymns appear in the 1989 United Methodist Hymnal. His composition "I'll Overcome Someday" is often credited as the basis for the U.S. Civil Rights anthem "We Shall Overcome."

McClain, William B, Come Sunday: The Liturgy of Zion. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1990.

"Tindley Temple: A Highlight of Methodist History".

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/charles-albert-tindley-1851-1933-grandfather-of-gospel-music>



HYMN TEXT WRITING

TRY YOUR HAND AT WRITING A HYMN TEXT USING COMMON METER (CM),

Common Meter (8.6.8.6) is often used in the hymns we sing with these traits:

1. It alternates between lines of eight syllables and lines of six syllables.
2. It follows an iambic stress pattern in which each unstressed syllable is followed by one stressed syllable.

The hymn "Amazing Grace" is an example of Common Meter:

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound (8)A

That saved a wretch like me. (6)B

I once was lost, but now am found, (8)A

Was blind, but now I see. (6)B

Notice how there are eight syllables in the first and third line and six in the second and fourth with rhyming words in an ABAB pattern.

Verse 1

(8) A

(6) B

(8) A

(6) B

Verse 2

(8) A

(6) B

(8) A

(6) B

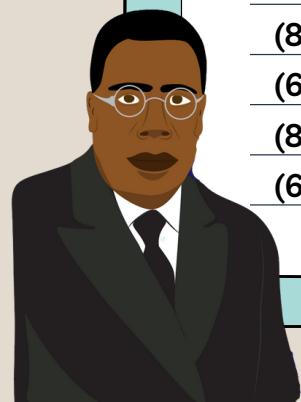
Verse 3

(8) A

(6) B

(8) A

(6) B





BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

Educator & Political Advisor

April 5, 1856–November 14, 1915



“I have learned that success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has had to overcome while trying to succeed.”



Ida B. Wells

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALIST | EDUCATOR

JULY 16, 1862 – MARCH 25, 1931

As a skilled writer, she used her time as a journalist to raise awareness on the conditions of Black people throughout the South.

She became an owner of two newspapers: "The Memphis Free Speech" and "Headlight and Free Speech."

She worked as a teacher in a segregated public school in Memphis in addition to working as a journalist and publisher, .

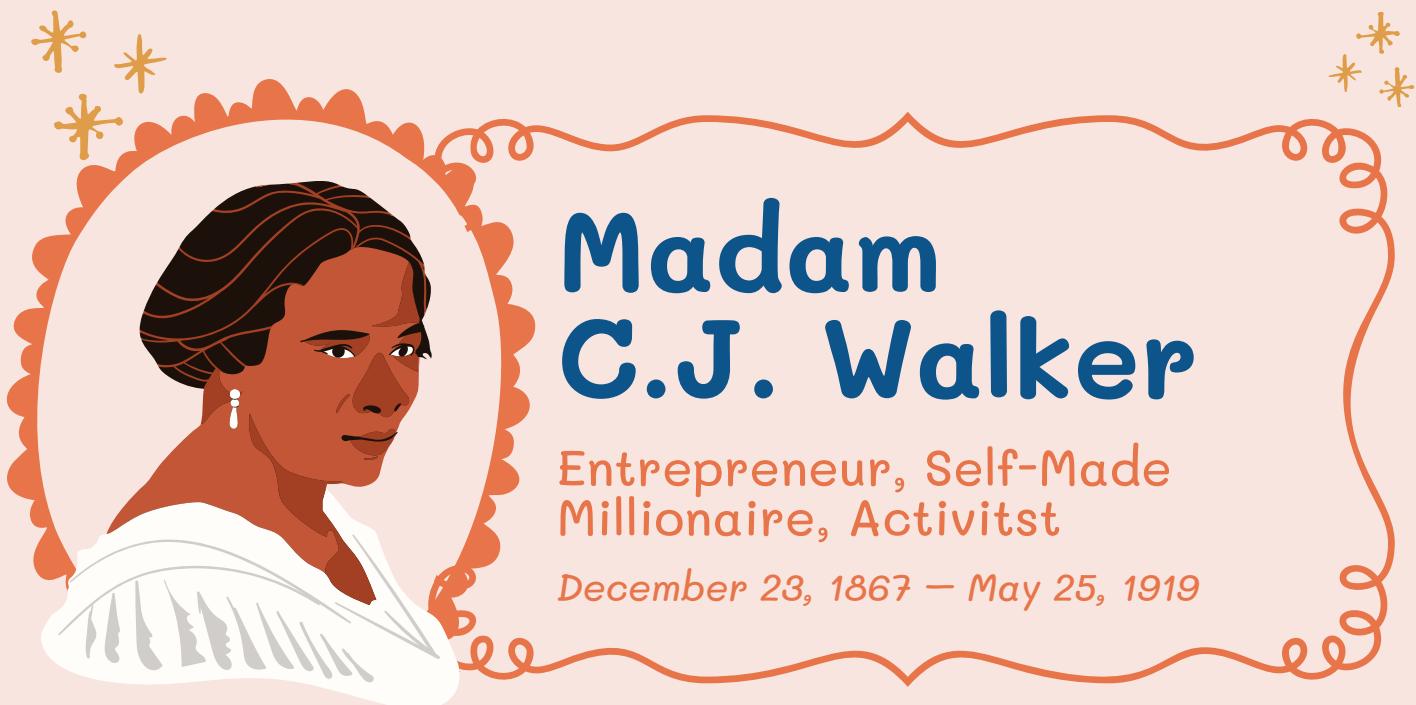
She traveled internationally, writing about lynchings to outside audiences. As a result of her stance on a number of matters, she was often ridiculed and ostracized by women's suffrage organizations in the United States. Nevertheless, Ida B. Wells remained active with the women's rights movement and created a lasting impact that is still acknowledged to this day.

Quote

Find your favorite quote by Ida B. Wells and offer your reflections.







Madam CJ Walker (born Sarah Breedlove) is recognized as being the first female self-made millionaire in the United States. She developed hair care products and empowered her saleswomen to be economically independent. As a philanthropist and activist, she used her wealth and influence to support Black owned and operated organizations and their causes.

Did you know?

- After suffering from hair loss, she concocted an effective hair grower which she later sold door-to-door. From just \$1.50, she was able to build a million-dollar business through innovative marketing.
- She developed the “Walker System,” emphasizing that hygiene and beauty go hand in hand. From hair products, her company ventured into putting up salons in prime locations, training schools, and a state-of-the art factory.
- Apart from donating, she also took action in some of the causes she supported. She helped organize a protest condemning the massacre of Black people in a riot. She later lobbied to make lynching a federal crime.



My Future Self

Madam C.J. Walker believed in empowering herself and others to reach their goals and live out their dreams. Write a letter to your future self and reflect on some things that may be currently happening in your life, as well as some goals and dreams you have for the future. Decide how old you want your future self to be when you read this letter and store it somewhere safe until then.

Dear

3

Dr. W.E.B. Du Bois

Sociologist • Historian • Writer

February 23, 1868 – August 27, 1963

Did you know?

* Du Bois was trained in the social sciences. While other sociologists were speculating about race relations, he devoted himself to sociological investigations of Black people in America and produced 16 research papers that were published between 1897 and 1914 at Atlanta University in Georgia, where he taught.

* He published the first case study of an African American community called, "The Philadelphia Negro: A Social Study" (1899) which marked the beginning of his expansive writing career.

* He shared in the creation of the NAACP in 1909 and edited its magazine, "The Crisis" from 1910 to 1934. His collection of essays, "The Souls of Black Folk" (1903) is a landmark of African American literature.





Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune

EDUCATOR | PHILANTHROPIST | HUMANITARIAN

July 10, 1875 – May 18, 1955

She became one of the most important black educators, civil and women's rights leaders, and government officials of the twentieth century



Dr. Bethune founded the Daytona Literary and Industrial Training Institute for Negro Girls in 1904 with less than \$2.00, a vision, resilience, and faith in God. Daytona Normal continued to grow and merged with the Cookman Institute of Jacksonville, Florida in 1923 to become Bethune-Cookman College.

In 1936, she became the highest ranking Black woman in government when President Roosevelt named her director of Negro Affairs of the National Youth Administration, where she remained for eight years.

In 1940, she became vice president of the NAACP, a position she held for the rest of her life.

Self-care Intentions

Dr. Bethune's success required a certain amount of resilience and faith in God. Regardless of what we do in life, taking care of ourselves is necessary. Offer some ways that you can engage in self-care in a variety of capacities and hold yourself accountable to them in the coming days, weeks, and months.

Physical Self-care

Emotional Self-care

Spiritual Self-care

Intellectual Self-care

Social Self-care

Environmental Self-care





Bessie Coleman

Pilot

January 26, 1892 - April 30, 1926

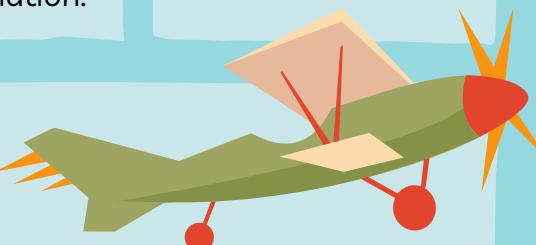
She was the first licensed Black woman pilot—and the first woman pilot of Native-American descent in the United States.

She wanted to be a pilot after hearing stories from her brothers who were in the military.

It was hard for Bessie to get into aviation schools in the U.S. because she due to racial and gender discrimination.

She had to learn how to speak French to apply for aviation schools in France.

She became well-known for her air tricks like flying in loops, but wasn't recognized as a pioneer in aviation until after her death.



You Can Be Anything!

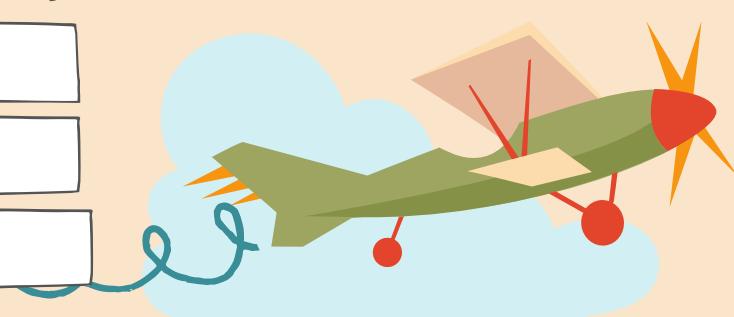


Bessie Coleman shows us what it means to follow our dreams and pave our own paths. In what ways are you paving a path of your own?

Who do you hope to be or do? Draw or describe it in the space below.

What are the things you can do to help you reach your goal?

Write down the words that might block what you want to do... then cross them out!



Ella Josephine Baker

CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST | COMMUNITY ORGANIZER

December 13, 1903 – December 13, 1986

She was an essential member of the civil rights movement and served as a field secretary and branch director for the NAACP. Baker also co-founded an organization that raised money to fight Jim Crow Laws.



Additionally, Baker was one of the primary organizers for Martin Luther King Jr.'s Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Perhaps her biggest contribution to the movement was the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), which advocated for nonviolent protest, assisted in organizing the 1961 Freedom Rides, and aided in registering Black voters. The Ella Baker Center for Human Rights exists today to carry on her legacy

Rosa Parks

CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST

FEBRUARY 4, 1913 - OCTOBER 24, 2005



ROSA PARKS WAS ON HER WAY
HOME ON DEC. 1, 1955 WHEN SHE
WAS ASKED TO GET UP AND
MOVE FROM THE FRONT TO THE
BACK OF THE BUS WITH THE
OTHER AFRICAN-AMERICANS.
BUT SHE SAID NO.

This refusal was not the first of its kind, but is what ultimately led to the Montgomery Bus Boycott, one of the largest social movements in U.S. history. She was jailed and lost her job, but her courageous actions eventually led to the integration of public transportation in Montgomery, Alabama and beyond.



SISTER ROSETTA THARPE

The Godmother of Rock n' Roll

March 20, 1915—October 9, 1973

.....

The rise of rock 'n' roll offered Sister Rosetta Tharpe a whole new fan base. In 1957, she was quoted by saying, "All this new stuff they call rock 'n' roll, why, I've been playing that for years now . . . Ninety percent of rock-and-roll artists came out of the church, their foundation is the church."

FANNIE LOU HAMER



Activist | Community Organizer

October 6, 1917 – March 14, 1977

Did you know?

* Fannie Lou Townsend Hamer rose was raised in the Mississippi Delta and went on to become one of the most important, passionate, and powerful voices of the civil and voting rights movements. Her leadership helped to advanced economic opportunities for Black people in the United States.

* In 1964, she became more well-known when she co-founded the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP), which challenged the local Democratic Party's efforts to block Black participants. Hamer and other MFDP members went to the Democratic National Convention that year, arguing to be recognized as part of the official delegation.

* She was barred from the ballot in 1964 when she announced her candidacy for the Mississippi House of Representatives. A year later, Fannie Lou Hamer, Victoria Gray, and Annie Devine became the first Black women to stand in the U.S. Congress when they unsuccessfully protested the Mississippi House election of 1964.

LEADERSHIP *legacy*

Fannie Lou Hamer left an incredible legacy of leadership.

Define what leadership means to you below.

(Large empty box for writing)

Qualities of a good leader:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

A leader I admire and why:

(Large empty box for writing)

My leadership legacy (how I want to be remembered):

(Large empty box for writing)



Bishop Leontine T.C. Kelly

PIONEER RELIGIOUS LEADER | METHODIST BISHOP

Did you know?

Bishop Kelly served as a visiting and adjunct professor of religion at a number of universities and continued to speak and teach across the globe. She also played a significant role in the development of Africa University, a United Methodist related institution in Zimbabwe.

She advocated for many issues that were often considered controversial, including the end to nuclear weapons, full inclusion of the LGBTQIA* community in the church, and engaging in ministry with those suffering from AIDS.

March 5, 1920 – June 28, 2012

Bishop Leontine T.C. Kelly was a pioneer religious leader. She came from a family of Methodist ministers. She spent many years of her life teaching social studies, being the mother to four, and wife of a Methodist minister. After her husband's death in 1969, she received her own call to ordained ministry.

In 1983, she became Asst. General Secretary in the area of Evangelism for the United Methodist General Board of Discipleship. The following year, the Western Jurisdictional Conference of The United Methodist Church elected her to the episcopacy. She was the first Black woman to be elected as bishop in any major denomination. She served as bishop of the California-Nevada Annual Conference and as president of the College of Bishops in The UMC.



"I'd just come down the steps at the Calvary parsonage, and Dr. Bethune stood there and said, 'Young lady, what do you plan to be?' I didn't answer her.

And she said, 'You must plan to be somebody.' And then she said, 'I'm Dr. Mary McCloud Bethune of Bethune Cookman College....' I just knew she was somebody. She became my hero because she was an amazing woman."

-Bishop Kelly-

THE STORY OF YOU

You can write or draw your story!

Bishop Kelly's life story was certainly unique to her, yet the legacy of her life is what has paved the way for countless others to follow.

In the boxes below, share your story! What important events have happened in your life? What are your strongest memories? What hobbies or passions are important to you?



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{ctgx - 2}{2\pi x^3}$$

$$S_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$f = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x - m)^2}{n}}$$

Mary Jackson

April 9, 1921 – February 11, 2005



MATHEMATICIAN | AEROSPACE ENGINEER

Mary Jackson was the first Black Female engineer for NASA. She was responsible for safely calculating the departure to and from space. Her work was directly responsible for the U.S. winning The Space Race in 1969. A character in her likeness was one of the main characters in the movie "Hidden Figures."



James Baldwin

Writer | Activist

August 2, 1924 – December 1, 1987

Baldwin's work speaks to the fundamental questions and dilemmas in the midst of a multitude of social and political pressures. Baldwin's work speaks to the themes of masculinity, sexuality, race, and class in a way that often runs parallel with some of the major political movements toward social change, such as the civil rights movement and the LGBTQIA* liberation movement.

Writing Prompt

Read an essay written by James Baldwin and discuss what inspired or challenged you.





SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

Congress | Activist | Educator

November 30, 1924 – January 1, 2005

Shirley Chisholm's mother Ruby Seale was from Barbados, and her father Charles St. Hill was from Guyana. She studied both in the Barbados and in the United States.

Shirley Chisholm ran for Congress in 1968 and won. She was the first Black woman elected to Congress. She represented New York's 12th congressional district for 7 terms from 1969 to 1983.

Chisholm was the first Black woman to run for U.S. President in 1972. Her campaign slogan was "Unbought and Unbossed" which still rings true today.

She was a nursery school teacher while taking up her Masters degree in elementary education. She was also an educational consultant and active in her community.

She was later voted to the New York State legislature where she advocated for women's rights, rights for people of color, and education.

THE QUALITIES OF A LEADER

Shirley Chisholm has achieved many things during her lifetime. Research these achievements and write a few in the thought bubbles. On the line below it, write down the qualities that could have helped her in those achievements.



MALCOM X

HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST | MUSLIM MINISTER

May 19, 1925 – February 21, 1965

He is often considered a controversial figure, but is widely celebrated for his pursuit of racial justice. He challenged much of the strategy of nonviolence surrounding the civil rights movement. He argued that black people should defend themselves "by any means necessary." His speeches had a powerful effect on his audiences. People who were tired of being told to wait for freedom, justice, equality and respect—felt that he articulated their complaints better than did the civil rights movement. In 1965 he founded the Organization of Afro-American Unity as a secular vehicle to internationalize the plight of Black Americans and to make common cause with the people of the developing world.





Maya Angelou

* WRITER, POET, AND CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST *

APRIL 4, 1928 - MAY 28, 2014

Maya Angelou, born Marguerite Annie Johnson, is best known for her widely-read autobiography "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," published in 1969. She published six other autobiographical books since, the final volume released in 2002. She was a prolific poet and her poems were often about the experience of Black women, the human spirit, and social justice for all.

* DID YOU KNOW? *

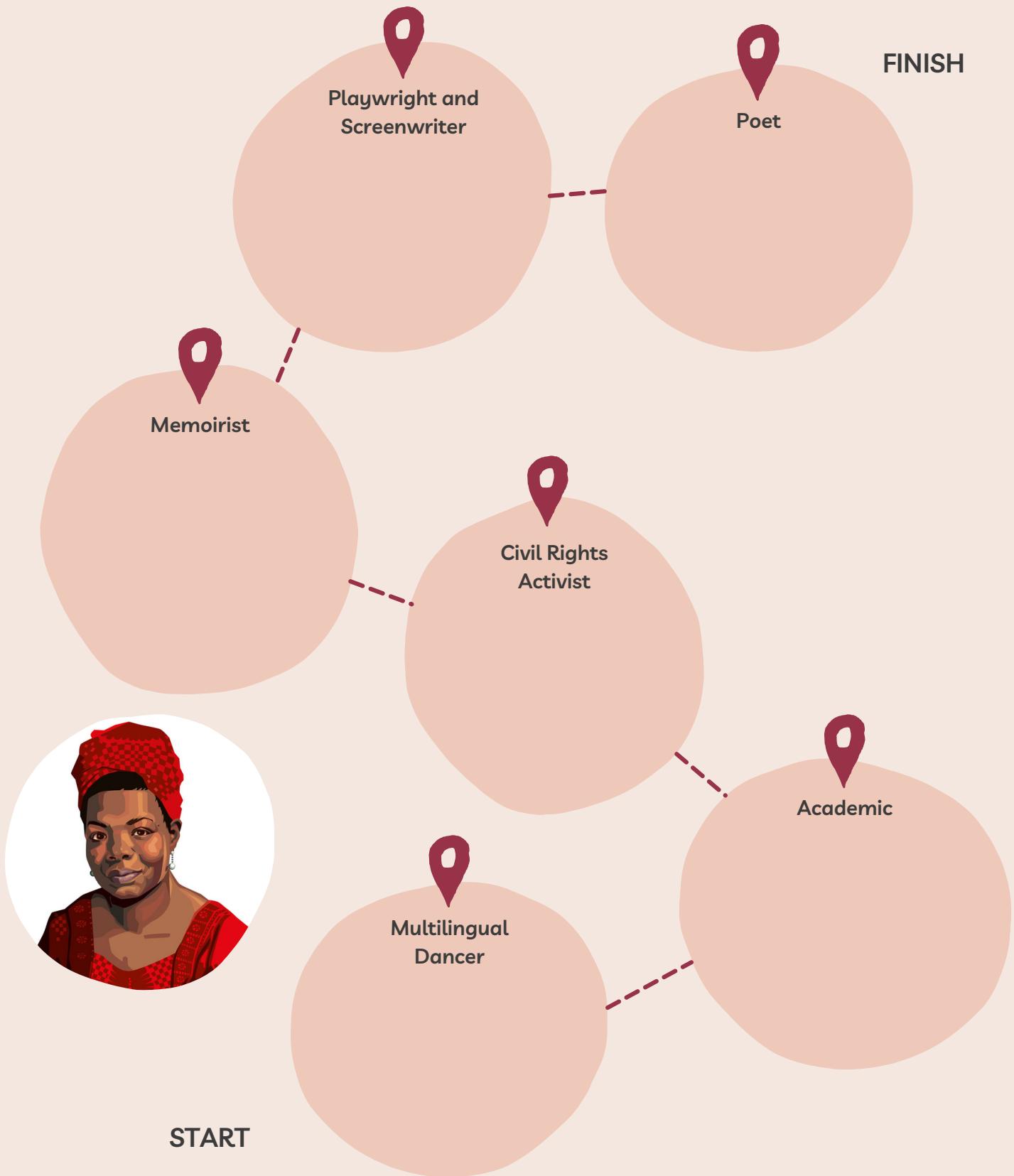
As an activist, she helped organize and produce historic fund raising events for civil rights struggles in the 50s and 60s. Struggles of Black People in the U.S. were also reflected in her prolific writing career.

As an author, her work extended to writing for film, television, and theater. Influenced by the oral traditions of African Americans, she performed her poetry thorough public readings, audio recordings, and documentaries.

Her name was coined by her older brother Bailey Jr. He was trying to call her "my sister" when she was a baby, but ended up saying "maya sister" instead.

The Many Hats of Maya Angelou

Look up her autobiography and fill out this map. Each destination represents one of Maya's many hats. Write a few interesting details below each pin.





Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Civil Rights Activist

January 15, 1929 - April 4, 1968

Martin Luther King Jr. was a Baptist minister and scholar. He was a social activist and led the civil rights movement against racial segregation during the 1960s.

Did you know?

* From 1957 to 1968, he traveled over 6 million miles and spoke over 2,500 times.

* He is well known for his speech "I Have A Dream" where he emphasized the importance of peace, equality, and freedom.

* He received a Nobel Peace Prize when he was thirty-five years old and was then the youngest recipient of the award.

"Change does not roll in on the wheels of inevitability, but comes through continuous struggle."

~Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.~

Principles of Non-Violence by Martin Luther King, Jr.



Dr. King fought for equality and human rights. He is also well known for his speech, "I Have a Dream," which he delivered during the March in Washington. In it, he said:

"I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all are created equal."

He was influenced by Mahatma Gandhi's non-violent approach to protests. This lead King to write his own six principles on non-violence.

In his book, "Stride Towards Freedom," King listed these six principles of non-violence:

- ◆ A way of life for courageous people.
- ◆ Seeks to win friendship and understanding.
- ◆ Seeks to defeat injustice, not people.
- ◆ Holds that suffering can educate and transform.
- ◆ Chooses love instead of hate.
- ◆ Believes that the universe is on the side of justice.

Would you add or remove any of these principles for advocacy in the 21st Century?

* _____

* _____

* _____



Muhammad Ali

PROFESSIONAL BOXER | SOCIAL ACTIVIST | PHILANTHROPIST

• January 17, 1942 - June 3, 2016 •

Muhammad Ali won the world boxing heavyweight title three times. During his two-decade career, he won 56 matches and only had 5 losses. His career came to a pause when he was drafted in the Vietnam War. He refused to do so, citing its conflict with his Islamic faith and his opposition to the U.S. participation in the war. His championship title was then revoked and he was banned from the sport for three years. He regained his championship title in 1974, where he said the infamous quote "float like a butterfly, sting like a bee."

• DID YOU KNOW? •

Born Cassius Marcellus Clay Jr., he changed his name to Muhammad Ali when he converted to Islam under Malcolm X's influence.

After retiring in 1984, he focused on philanthropy by supporting causes such as Parkinson's disease research and the Special Olympics. He also became the UN Messenger of Peace in 1998.

Before becoming a professional boxer, he won a boxing gold medal as part of the U.S. Team in the 1960 Olympics.

Ruby Bridges

CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST | PHILANTHROPIST

SEPTEMBER 8, 1954

"Ruby Bridges probably had no idea that the bold act she committed in 1960 would set off a chain reaction leading to the integration of schools in the South. She was just six years old when she became the first African American student to attend William Frantz Elementary in Louisiana at the height of desegregation. She is now the chair of the Ruby Bridges Foundation, which was formed in 1999 to promote "the values of tolerance, respect, and appreciation of all differences" and was made an honorary deputy marshal in a ceremony in Washington, DC."^{*}



Did you know?

Bridges has published three books, *Through My Eyes* (1999), *Ruby Bridges Goes To School: My True Story* (2009), and *This Is Your Time* (2020).

On November 14, 1960, her first day, she was escorted to school by four federal marshals. Bridges spent the entire day in the principal's office as racist parents marched into the school to remove their children. On Bridges's second day, Barbara Henry, a young teacher from Boston, began to teach her. The two worked together in an otherwise vacant classroom for an entire year.

Her walk into the school that day was commemorated by American painter Norman Rockwell which was even displayed at The White House art gallery.



My Community Network Plan

Ruby Bridges often credits her community of support for helping her get through hardship and adversity.

Work to identify your own community of support that you can reach out to when things get hard.

People I can call or talk to for help:

- _____
- _____
- _____

How I can look after myself:

My strengths:

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____

What has helped me
in the past:

Advice I would give a friend:



DR. MAE C. JEMISON

DOCTOR | ENGINEER | ASTRONAUT

OCTOBER 17, 1956

Dr. Mae C. Jemison is the first Black American woman to go to space. She was part of the STS-47 crew as a science mission specialist. On September 12, 1992, Dr. Jemison went to space on board the Endeavor.

It took two tries for Dr. Jemison to get into the NASA astronaut program. Dr. Jemison speaks fluent Russian, Japanese, and Swahili.

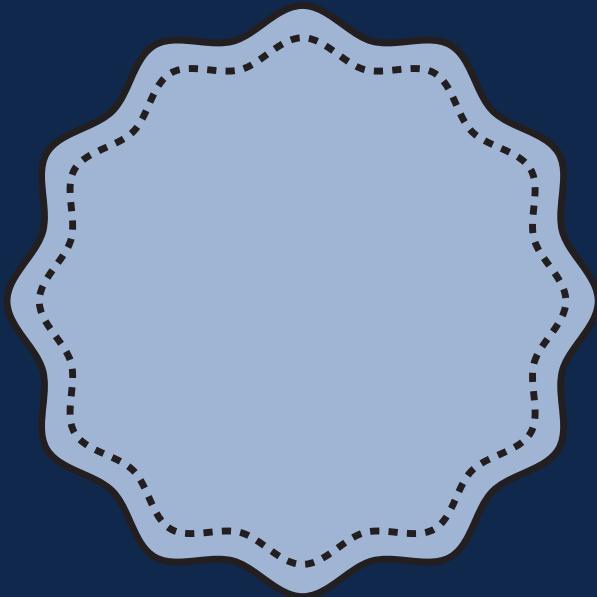
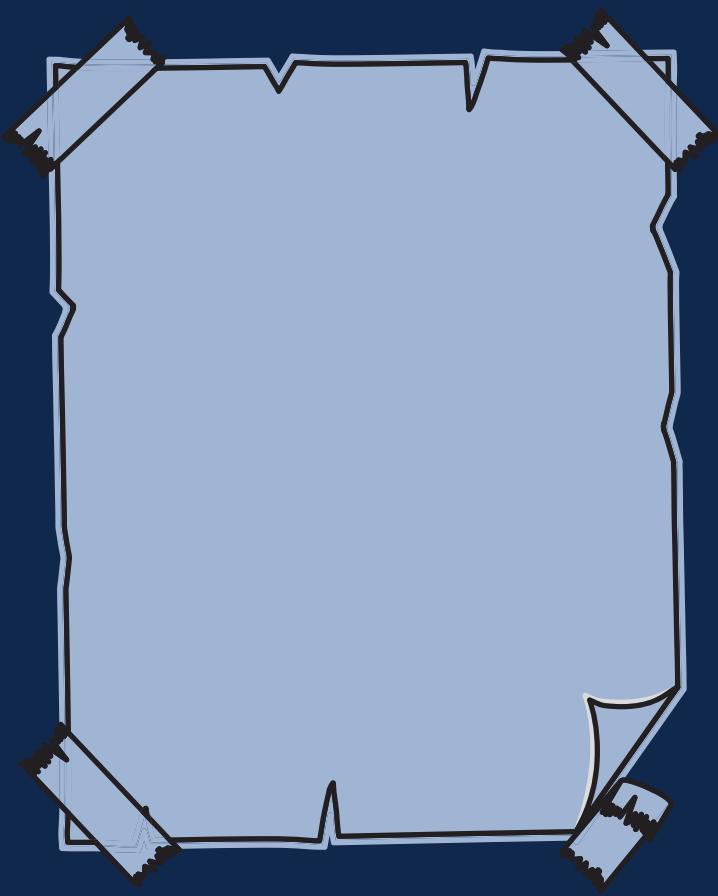
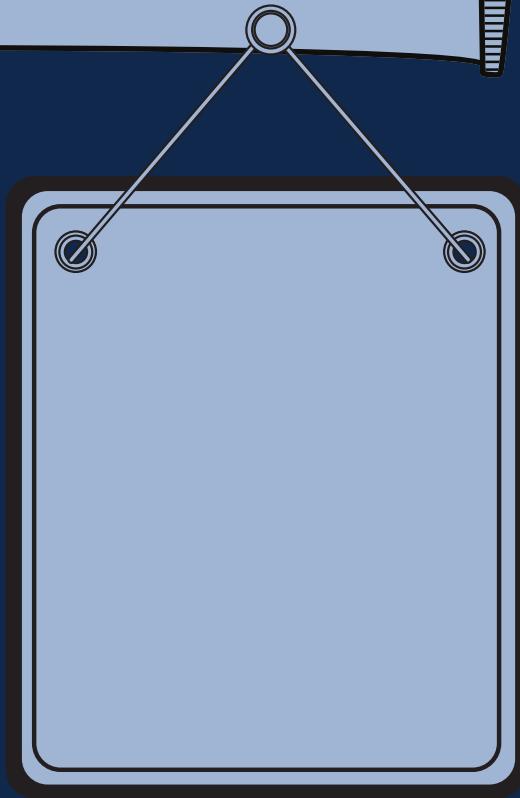
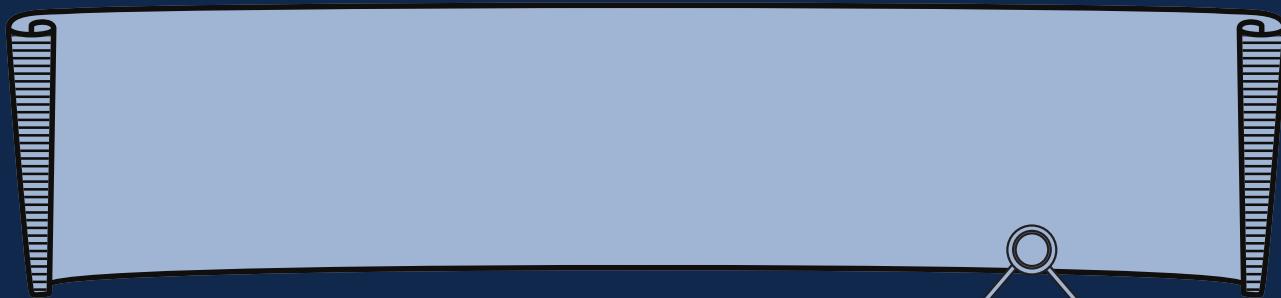
Dr. Jemison is a fan of science fiction. She considers the original Star Trek series as one of her inspirations. Years later, appeared as a lieutenant in an episode of Star Trek: The Next Generation. This made her the first real astronaut to appear on the show.

As a child, Dr. Jemison loved both dance and science. She graduated from Stanford University with multiple degrees in Chemical Engineering, African and African-American studies. She also has a medical degree from Cornell Medical School.



Life GOALS

Dr. Jemison set her sights on space at an early age. In the spaces below, brainstorm all the big things you would like to achieve over your lifetime and set some realistic goals for yourself.



Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson



Astrophysicist

October 5, 1958



Tyson's interests in academia and research include star formation, exploding stars, dwarf galaxies, and the structure of the Milky Way. Dr. Tyson has played an important role in popularizing astrophysical concepts and discoveries.

In 2001, Dr. Tyson was appointed to the Commission on the Future of the United States Aerospace Industry. Three years later he served on the President's Commission on Implementation of United States Space Exploration Policy, also known as the "Moon, Mars and Beyond" commission.



AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL NARRATIVE

Dr. Tyson has experienced a lot of success in his work. Write a short bio about yourself and the core values and beliefs you hold that impact the work you do..

A paragraph about myself.

What are my core values and beliefs?

What am I doing right now to honor them?

What other things can I do to reinforce them?

VENUS & SERENA WILLIAMS



Professional Tennis Players

Venus: June 17, 1980

Serena: September 26, 1981

"It doesn't matter what your background is or where you come from, if you have dreams and goals, that's all that matters."

Amanda Gorman



WORDSMITH | CHANGE-MAKER | INAUGURAL POET

March 7, 1998

Did you know

* At 22-years-old, she became the youngest inaugural poet and became America's first national youth poet laureate. Additionally, she was the first poet to perform at the Super Bowl.

* She was born with an auditory disorder which makes her 'hear and process information differently from other people.' This left her having difficulty pronouncing certain letters of the alphabet, particularly the letter R.

* She is the founder and executive director of a non-profit organization which promotes youth literacy and leadership through creative writing workshops. Its mission is to empower youth to use their voices and eliminate inequality through education.

"The first bud of spring sings the other seeds into joining her uprising."

~Amanda Gorman~

"The Hill We Climb"

"When day comes we ask ourselves,
where can we find light in this never-ending shade?
The loss we carry,
a sea we must wade
We've braved the belly of the beast
We've learned that quiet isn't always peace
And the norms and notions of what just is
Isn't always just-ice
And yet the dawn is ours before we knew it
Somehow we do it
Somehow we've weathered and witnessed
a nation that isn't broken
but simply unfinished
We the successors of a country and a time
Where a skinny Black girl
descended from slaves and raised by a single mother
can dream of becoming president
only to find herself reciting for one
And yes we are far from polished
far from pristine
but that doesn't mean we are
striving to form a union that is perfect
We are striving to forge our union with purpose
To compose a country committed to all
cultures, colors, characters and conditions of man
And so we lift our gazes not to what stands between us
but what stands before us
We close the divide because we know to put our future first
we must first put our differences aside
We lay down our arms
so we can reach out our arms to one another
We seek harm to none and harmony for all
Let the globe, if nothing else, say this is true:
That even as we grieved, we grew
That even as we hurt, we hoped
That even as we tired, we tried

That we'll forever be tied together, victorious
Not because we will never again know defeat
but because we will never again sow division
Scripture tells us to envision
that everyone shall sit under their own vine and fig tree
And no one shall make them afraid
If we're to live up to our own time
Then victory won't lie in the blade
But in all of the bridges we've made
That is the promise to glade
The hill we climb
If only we dare
It's because being American is more than a pride we inherit,
it's the past we step into
and how we repair it
We've seen a force that would shatter our nation
rather than share it
Would destroy our country if it meant delaying democracy
And this effort very nearly succeeded
But while democracy can be periodically delayed
it can never be permanently defeated
In this truth
in this faith we trust
For while we have our eyes on the future
history has its eyes on us
This is the era of just redemption
We feared at its inception
We did not feel prepared to be the heirs
of such a terrifying hour
but within it we found the power
to author a new chapter
To offer hope and laughter to ourselves
So while once we asked,
how could we possibly prevail over catastrophe?
Now we assert,
How could catastrophe possibly prevail over us?

We will not march back to what was
but move to what shall be
A country that is bruised but whole,
benevolent but bold,
fierce and free
We will not be turned around
or interrupted by intimidation
because we know our inaction and inertia
will be the inheritance of the next generation
Our blunders become their burdens
But one thing is certain:
If we merge mercy with might,
and might with right,
then love becomes our legacy
and change our children's birthright
So let us leave behind a country
better than the one we were left with
Every breath from my bronze-pounded chest,
we will raise this wounded world into a wondrous one
We will rise from the gold-limbed hills of the West,
we will rise from the windswept Northeast
where our forefathers first realized revolution
We will rise from the lake-rimmed cities of the Midwestern states,
we will rise from the sunbaked South
We will rebuild, reconcile and recover
and every known nook of our nation
and every corner called our country,
our people diverse and beautiful will emerge,
battered and beautiful
When day comes we step out of the shade,
aflame and unafraid
The new dawn blooms as we free it
For there is always light,
if only we're brave enough to see it
If only we're brave enough to be it."

A WRITING EXERCISE

Read and then write about Amanda Gorman's poem, "The Hill We Climb."

Observe the major poetic themes in the poem. Does it have themes related to love, peace, change, or adversity? What other themes emerge from the poem?

