



OCTOBER RESOURCE

Note - This is a ready-made Navigate resource pack intended for use within college tutorials or sessions. You are welcome to use it as provided or adapt it to better suit the specific needs of your college and students.

These resources are designed to support student engagement with key national events and topics throughout the academic year.

Please ensure that all activities are recorded on Navigate against each participating student.



¥7.	B		A	C	K	
H		S	T	0	R	Y
	M	0	N		Н	

Black History Month Theme Context	01	
Session Plan for Tutors	02	
Introduction	03	
Session Slides	05	
Icebreaker Option 1	21	
Icebreaker Option 2	33	
Icebreaker Option 3	42	
Additional Handouts	50	

TABLE OF CONTENT



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Firm in Power and Pride," a powerful tribute to the resilience, strength, and unwavering commitment to progress that defines the Black community across the globe. This year, the theme highlights the profound contributions made by Black people be they leaders, activists, or pioneers who have shaped history, while also looking towards a future of continued empowerment, unity, and growth.

The theme focuses on two core values: **power** and **pride**.

Power represents the influence, leadership, and capacity to effect positive change. It acknowledges the visionaries who have led political, civil rights, and social movements, as well as those who have broken barriers in business, education, and the arts. Their legacies remind us that true power is not about titles but about the collective strength, courage, and unity used to forge a more equitable future for all.

Pride reflects cultural identity, heritage, and the celebration of Black excellence. From the art and music to the stories passed through generations, pride is the heartbeat of Black communities worldwide. It's about knowing where we come from, embracing our history, and walking boldly into the future without compromise or apology. Pride is a declaration of the beauty, the resilience, and the unmatched contributions of Black culture to the world.

Black History Month 2025 will honour key anniversaries, including the 60th anniversary of the Race Relations Act, the death of Malcolm X, and the Bristol Bus Boycott, led by the late Paul Stephenson. These milestones serve as a powerful reminder of the ongoing struggle for equality and justice, and the tireless efforts of those who have fought for the rights of Black people and communities.

This explanation is from the Black History Month site. For more information go to <u>www.blackhistorymonth.org</u>

PLAN



1. Starter - Icebreaker(5-7 mins)

- Run one icebreaker (choose Who Am I?, True or False, or Who Said It?).
- Keep it quick and interactive (Stand up for True/False, shout out guesses for Who Am I?, etc.)
- Reveal answers → connect to session theme: Standing Firm in Power and Pride.

2. Main Activity Input: Black British Leaders (10 mins)

- Show 4-5 slides (Leaders Across Sectors You can select from the options or add your own).
- Tutor gives short intro to 5 leaders (short bios included).
- Emphasise: not just entertainment, but business, STEM, activism.

3. Main Activity (15 mins)

- Groups of 3–4.
- Each group picks one leader. (Profiles provided)
- Questions:
 - a. What challenges might they have faced?
 - b. How did they stand firm in pride and power?
 - c. What can we learn from them today?
- After 10 mins, share back 1 insight per group.

4. Reflection & Wrap (5-8 mins)

- Ask: "One new thing you learned today?"
- Encourage 1–2 volunteers to share.
- Show Navigate slide → prompt students to log learning/reflections.





WHAT IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH?

Black History Month is a time dedicated to recognising, celebrating, and learning about the contributions, culture, and history of Black people in the UK and around the world. It highlights the achievements of Black individuals and communities, many of whom have shaped society but are often left out of mainstream history.

INTRODUCTION



WHY IS IT CELEBRATED?

Black History Month is celebrated to:

- Acknowledge untold stories and contributions of Black people throughout history.
- Challenge racism and discrimination by raising awareness and encouraging conversations.
- Celebrate Black culture, identity, and pride.
- Inspire future generations by learning about the resilience, creativity, and impact of Black individuals past and present.

In the UK, Black History Month is celebrated in October each year.





LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this session, you will...

- Learn about inspiring Black British leaders and innovators.
- Take part in interactive activities.
- Reflect on how these figures stood firm in pride and power.
- Record your reflections on Navigate.

Pick an icebreaker to start the session then move on to the main activity

MAIN ACTIVITY

Today we're focusing on 5 inspiring Black Britons who stood firm in power and pride, each in a different sector. These aren't just household names — they're people who broke barriers and changed opportunities in the UK.





STEVEMCQUEEN

FILM & ARTS

Oscar-winning filmmaker and Turner Prize-winning artist. He uses his platform to tell powerful stories about Black British history, like the Small Axe film series.







SHARMADEAN REID

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Founder of WAH Nails and The Stack World. She is a business leader who supports women entrepreneurs and champions diversity in tech and business.









EDWARD ENNINFUL

FASHION

First Black editor-in-chief of British Vogue. He transformed the magazine to showcase diversity and representation in fashion and culture.







DR MAGGIE ADERIN-POCOCK

SCIENCE

Space scientist and BBC presenter. Despite dyslexia and discouragement at school, she built a career designing instruments to study space and inspires the next generation of scientists.







STORMZY RAPPER

MUSIC & ACTIVISM

Award-winning rapper and the first Black British solo artist to headline Glastonbury. He funds scholarships for Black students at Cambridge and speaks openly about racism and mental health.



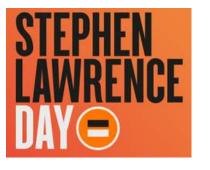




BARONESS DOREN LAWRENCE

ACTIVISM

Campaigner for justice after the racist murder of her son Stephen. She pushed for major reforms in UK law and policing and continues to champion race equality.







KEVIN FENTON

HEALTHCARE

Leading doctor and public health expert. He has played a key role in tackling health inequalities in the UK and was a prominent voice during the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring the impact on Black and minority communities was recognised and addressed.



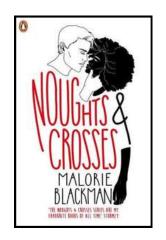


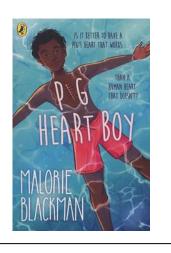


MALORIE BLACKMAN

LITERATURE

Author of the Noughts & Crosses series and former Children's Laureate. She writes stories that challenge stereotypes and bring diverse voices into children's literature.









JAMAL EDWARDS

MEDIA & BUSINESS

Entrepreneur who launched SBTV on YouTube at 15, opening doors for new UK music talent like Ed Sheeran. Awarded an MBE before 25.







DINAASHER-SMITH

SPORTS

World champion sprinter and one of Britain's fastest women, breaking records and challenging barriers in athletics.







GROUP DISCUSSION

Split into groups of 3–4. Pick one leader and do some more research about them

DISCUSS

- What challenges did they face?
- How did they "stand firm in power and pride"?
- What can we learn from them at our age?

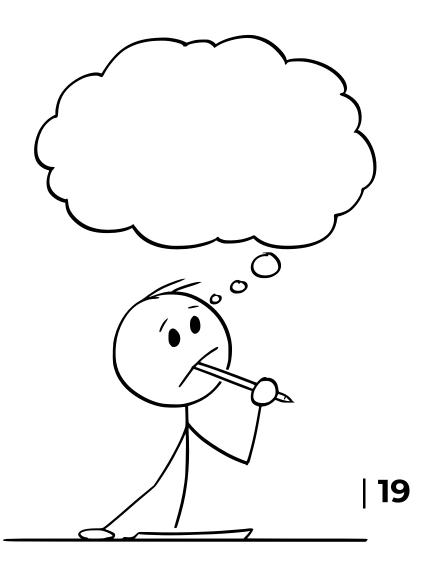


REFLECTION

One new person you learned about today?

One thing that inspired you?

One way you will stand firm in pride and power in your own life?



ADD TODAY'S ACTIVITY ON AVIGATE

Some questions to ask yourself when reflecting:

- What did you do or learn today?
- What questions did you ask today?
- What skills have you developed?
- What did you find interesting or challenging?
- What can you improve on?
- How can this experience/activity help you in the future?

login.navigate.uk.com My Timeline Add an activity Enrichment - Art exhibition 26/06/2025 Today I volunteered at Cornwall Museum. We dismantled an exhibit and packed it safely away for storage. We then assembled a new Art Installation.

NAVIGATE Start building your Digital CV

ICEBREAKER OPTION 1: WHO SAID IT?

You'll read a series of quotes from different individuals, can you guess who said each one?

*Bonus Point: If you can guess the year

CAN YOU GUESS WHO SAID THIS QUOTE?

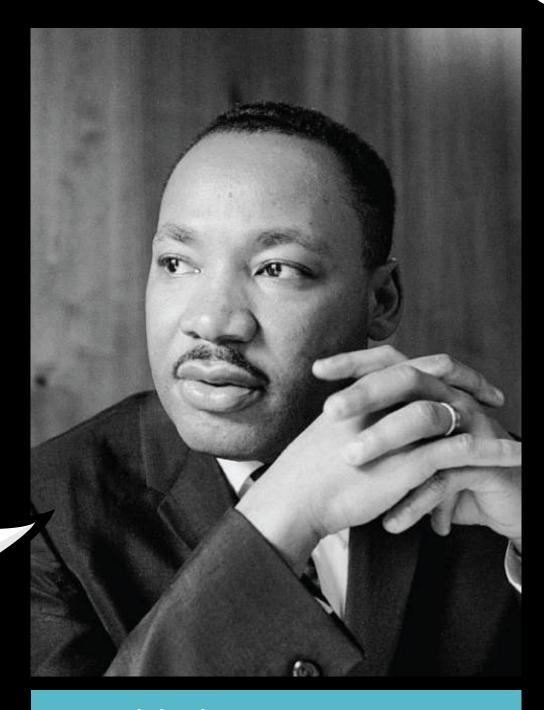
"The measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge."



ANSWER:

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. - 1963, SERMON STRENGTH TO LOVE

"The measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge."



Civil Rights Leader, USA

CAN YOU GUESS WHO SAID THIS QUOTE?

"I want to be remembered as someone who used whatever talent she had to do her work to the very best of her ability."





ANSWER:

MAYA ANGELOU - 1993, INTERVIEW WITH SCHOLASTIC

"I want to be remembered as someone who used whatever talent she had to do her work to the very best of her ability."



Poet, Author & Activist

CAN YOU GUESS WHO SAID THIS QUOTE?

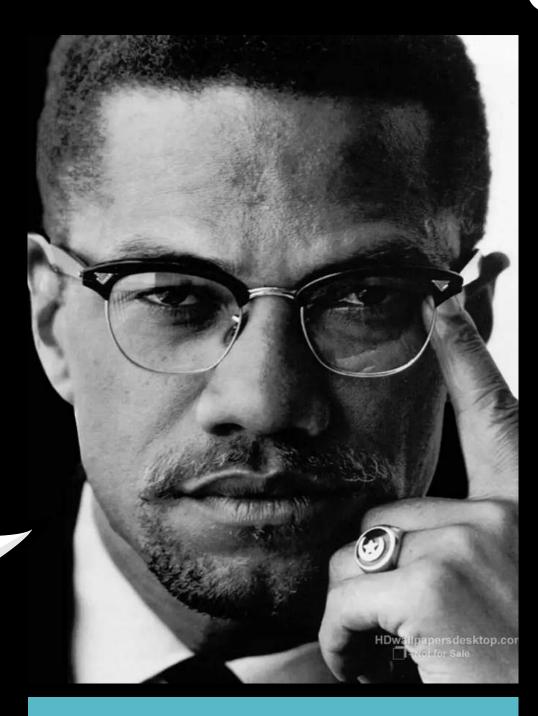
"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today."



ANSWER:

MALCOLM X - 1964, SPECH IN NEW YORK

"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today."



Civil Rights Leader, USA



CAN YOU GUESS WHO SAID THIS QUOTE?

"A people's art is the genesis of their freedom."

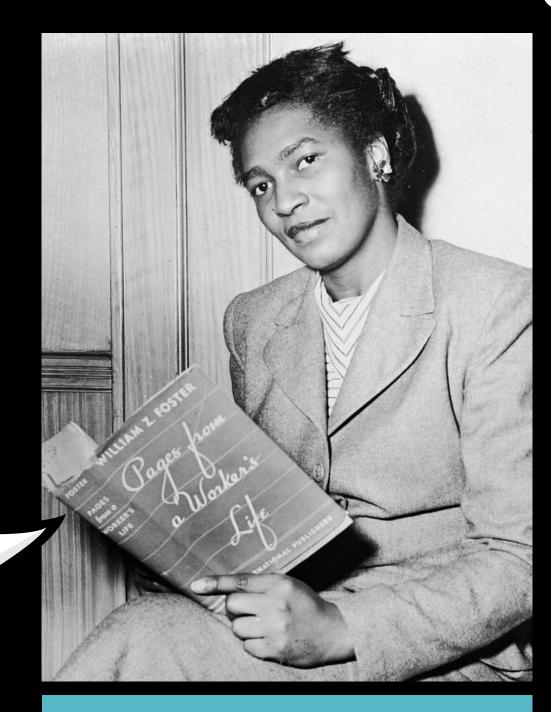




ANSWER:

CLAUDIA JONES - 1950S, SPEECH DURING ACTIVISM IN THE UK

"A people's art is the genesis of their freedom."



Activist & Founder of Notting Hill Carnival

CAN YOU GUESS WHO SAID THIS QUOTE?

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

ANSWER:

NELSON MANDELA - 1990, SPEECH IN SOUTH AFRICA AFTER RELEASE FROM PRISON

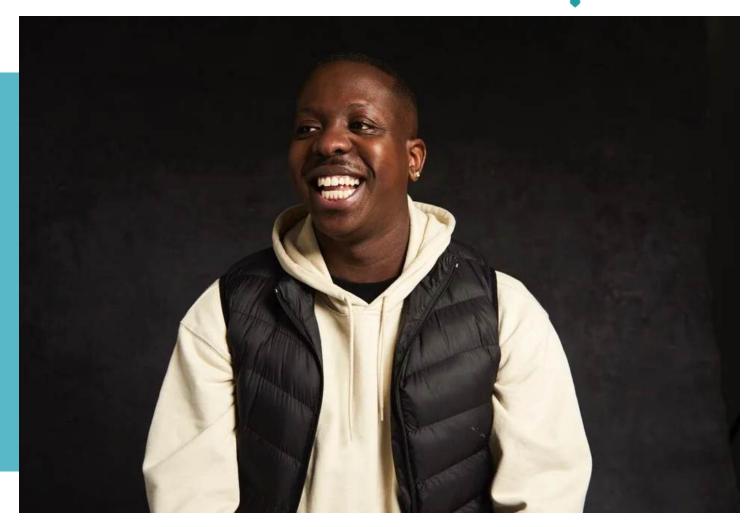
"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

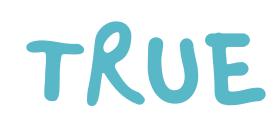


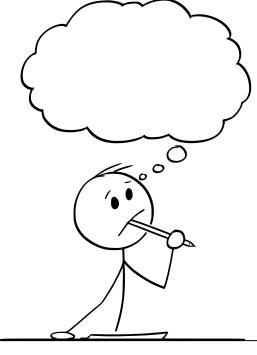
Anti-Apartheid Leader & Former President of South Africa

ICEBREAKER OPTION 2: TRUE OR FALSE

Jamal Edwards founded a media platform in his bedroom that helped launch Ed Sheeran's career.











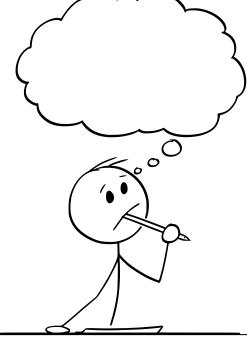
TRUE

Jamal Edwards founded SB.TV, a media platform he started from his bedroom, which played a significant role in launching the careers of several artists, including Ed Sheeran.

Sir Lenny Henry was the first Black British astronaut.



TRUE







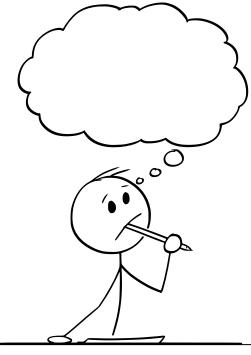


Sir Lenny Henry is an award-winning comedian, actor, and campaigner for diversity in the arts. He has been knighted for his services to drama and charity, but he is not an astronaut.

Stormzy founded the MOBO Awards in 2010.



TRUE







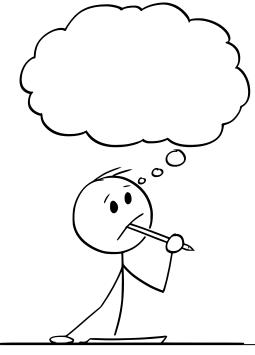


The MOBO Awards were founded by Kanya King in 1996. Stormzy has won multiple awards but did not create the event.

Dina Asher-Smith is the fastest British woman in history.











TRUE

Dina Asher-Smith is Britain's fastest female sprinter, holding national records and winning European and World Championship medals. She has represented Team GB at the Olympics and inspires young athletes.

ICEBREAKER OPTION 3: WHO AM I?



Can you guess which famous Black Briton this is, based on their life story?



I grew up with the flavours of the Caribbean and carried them with me when I came to the UK. For years, my sauce was only enjoyed at home or sold at small events, but one day I brought it to a TV studio. Instead of just pitching, I sang about it with my guitar. That song, and my secret recipe, turned into a supermarket success that made me a household name. Who am I?



ANSWER

LEVI ROOTS

Now a millionaire, entrepreneur, and mentor for young business starters.

Numbers were my language before most children had even mastered their times tables. I passed exams years earlier than expected and went on to work in some of the biggest names in technology. But I didn't stop there—I wanted others, especially young women and girls, to see a place for themselves in coding and STEM. I co-founded a movement that does just that. Who am I?



ANSWER

DR ANNE-MARIE IMAFIDON

Runs Stemettes, advises on tech and education, appears on BBC's Countdown, and champions girls in STEM.



I grew up playing football in my local community, dreaming of representing my club and country. For years, I trained hard, faced setbacks, and proved myself on youth teams, always staying focused. One day, I stepped onto the pitch for Arsenal's first team and later for England, showing that dedication and resilience can turn dreams into reality. I now use my platform to inspire young people and speak out against racism in football. Who am I?



ANSWER

BUKAYO SAKA

Arsenal first-team player with over 60 caps for England; influential role model for youth.

MAIN ACTIVITY STUDENT HANDOUT

These are additional details for the profiles, so students can review them during group discussions and be prepared to answer the related questions.

- 1. What challenges might they have faced?
- 2. How did they stand firm in pride and power?
- 3. What can we learn from them today?

STEVE MCQUEEN



Steve McQueen rose to global fame as an Oscar-winning filmmaker and Turner Prize-winning artist, but his journey was not straightforward. As a Black British director, he entered an industry where stories about people like him were often ignored or erased. Rather than conforming, he used his platform to shine a light on untold histories, especially in his Small Axe series, which gave powerful voice to the Black British experience. His success shows that creativity can be a tool for change, and that by standing firm in your vision, you can reshape how a nation sees itself.

SHARMADEAN REID



Sharmadean Reid entered business and tech as a young Black woman in a space dominated by men. She founded WAH Nails and later The Stack World, building networks that empower women entrepreneurs. By refusing to accept limits on who gets to lead, she has opened doors for thousands of others. Reid demonstrates that leadership isn't just about individual success, it's about building communities that thrive together.

EDWARD ENNINFUL



Growing up in West London as a Ghanaian immigrant, Edward Enninful faced barriers in a fashion industry that rarely celebrated diversity. Despite this, he worked his way up to become the first Black editor-in-chief of British Vogue. Instead of following the status quo, he transformed the magazine, championing models, designers, and voices from all backgrounds. His career shows that representation matters, and that leadership can change entire industries when you stay true to your identity and values.

DR MAGGIE ADERIN-POCOCK



As a child, Maggie Aderin-Pocock was discouraged from pursuing science because of her dyslexia and because few people like her were visible in the field. She pushed past those obstacles to become a respected space scientist and a presenter of BBC's The Sky at Night. By combining technical expertise with her gift for communication, she has inspired thousands of young people — especially girls and underrepresented groups — to see science as a place where they belong. Her story proves that passion and persistence can break down barriers.

STORMZY



Stormzy's rise from South London to global superstardom has not been without challenges. As one of the UK's most visible Black artists, he has faced prejudice and scrutiny alongside fame. Instead of being silenced, he used his voice to speak about racism, mental health, and faith, while also funding scholarships for Black students at Cambridge. His journey shows that success can be more than personal achievement, it can be a platform for lifting others and creating change.

BARONESS DOREEN LAWRENCE



When her son Stephen Lawrence was murdered in a racist attack, Doreen Lawrence faced unimaginable personal pain, compounded by systemic failures in the police investigation. Instead of stepping back, she chose to fight for justice, leading to landmark changes in policing and equality law. Now a life peer in the House of Lords, she continues to campaign for fairness. Her strength shows how resilience in the face of injustice can bring about lasting social change, teaching us the power of standing firm with dignity and purpose.

KEVIN FENTON



Kevin Fenton developed a passion for medicine and public health from an early age, motivated to improve the wellbeing of overlooked communities. He navigated challenges including underrepresentation of Black professionals and systemic inequalities in healthcare. By focusing on evidence-based interventions, community engagement, and policy advocacy, he became a leading figure in UK public health, tackling disparities and leading initiatives during the COVID-19 pandemic. His work demonstrates how expertise, persistence, and a commitment to equity can create meaningful social change and inspire others.

MALORIE BLACKMAN



Malorie Blackman's path to success was marked by rejection — she received countless knock-backs before a publisher accepted her work. In a world where Black characters were rarely seen in children's books, she imagined stories that flipped the narrative, most famously in her Noughts & Crosses series. Her writing has inspired readers and challenged stereotypes for decades. Blackman shows how persistence and creativity can change not only your own life but the imaginations of generations to come.

JAMAL EDWARDS



Jamal Edwards started SBTV as a teenager with a camera his mum gave him, at a time when few people believed a young Black man could revolutionise music. He built a platform that launched the careers of artists like Ed Sheeran and Dave, proving that vision and persistence can open doors that don't yet exist. Though he faced doubts about his age and background, he stood firm in his belief that talent deserves to be seen. His legacy shows that innovation and determination can create lasting opportunities for others.

DINA ASHER-SMITH



Dina Asher-Smith grew up running on local tracks in London, dreaming of competing at the highest level. She faced the pressures of a highly competitive sport and the challenges of being a Black female athlete in a field with limited representation. Despite injuries and setbacks, she trained relentlessly, became Britain's fastest female sprinter, and won medals at European and World Championships. Representing Team GB at the Olympics, she now uses her platform to inspire young people, showing how dedication, resilience, and self-belief can turn talent into lasting achievement.