



# Spotlight on Black Heritage

we RISE together

## 28 days of Black Heritage Month Activities

To help students, families and staff celebrate Black History Month, the Peel District School Board is sharing 28 days of activities that can be done in the classroom or at home. We encourage people to share their activities on social media and use the hashtag #PeelBlackHistory.

1. Explore [Canada's Black History Month](#) page.
2. Listen to, create and perform Black musical forms (spirituals, jazz, blues, reggae, disco, hip-hop, rap, etc...)
3. Visit the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) and complete the Black History Month (BHM) activities and/or visit their [BHM Afro Fete](#).
4. Watch [films/movies](#) and/or [documentaries](#) about the Black experience, explore the central themes and discuss the portrayal of Black characters.
5. Read a variety of classic and contemporary text forms - poetry, speeches, short stories, novels, plays written by Black authors about Black experiences and discuss if this challenges or extends your understanding of what it means to be Black.
6. Listen to specific [speeches from an African Americans](#); What is the theme or message? Do you agree with this message? Why? Why not? Do the ideas represented align with your personal views? How are they similar/different? What is the impact of the speech? Has it contributed in any way to the fight for social justice? How?
7. Research notable [Black scientists](#), their impact on science and technology. Reflect on the social conditions that existed at the time of their work.
8. Visit the [Black Inventors Site](#) - review the noted Black inventors and discuss the impact of their inventions on our society
9. Create a list of Black firsts - science, technology, politics, education, sports, music, art, and finance; what are some of the challenges that each person faced or continues to face?
10. Visit the [Oral History Archive](#) site, view the reflections of prominent Black Americans and collate a list of Contemporary Black Change Makers that resonate with you.
11. Encourage students to draw, colour, paint and reflect on Black [visual art](#). Students can also respond to the following questions: What is the subject of the work? What is the message? What do you think is the theme or what meaning does the work convey? What is the artist's view of the world?
12. Put on a concert – feature Black singers, dancers, spoken word artists, fashion designers, models and actors.
13. Webquests - create a webquest about the experiences of people of African descent or [find one and complete the linked activities](#).
14. Visit [The Canadian Anti-Racism Community](#) website and review some of the linked information about anti-racism and anti-black racism in particular.
15. Trace the history of Black Canadians in Canada from the 1600s to now in this [timeline](#).
16. Note 5-10 African Canadian contributions to Canada in a field that is of personal interest.
17. Invite a Black motivational speaker to speak to your class or school.
18. Create and perform plays that deal with issues that relate to the Black community.
19. Take field trips to centres/venues that hold BHM activities –ROM, [Harbourfront](#), [Ontario Black History Society Bus Tours](#).
20. Create and display art that depicts Black heritage and/or experiences.
21. Complete a list of Black history facts and/or firsts.
22. Create a social media account – link, share and/or comment on content written or produced by Black folks about Black experiences.
23. Write a poem, song, musical score, story, essay that examines some of the social issues and/or systems of oppression faced by Black people all over the world.
24. Interview a local Black business person, teacher, dentist, barber, bus driver, pastor, about their experiences as a Black person living in Canada.
25. Create Black history civil rights timeline.
26. Study the [linked Gapminder map](#) – compare the disparities in income/wealth of two countries whose populations are predominantly of African descent.
27. Host a discussion about Black Canadians, their heritage, contemporary lives, their contributions, their struggles for human and civil rights and their impact on the fight for civil rights for other minoritized groups in Canada.
28. Host a Black History Month assembly and/or a series of Black History Month Workshops that is/are geared at teaching students about the history, heritage and contributions of peoples of African descent.