



African American History Month
February 2020

TK	Reading books with multicultural characters Adding diverse stories to classroom library
Kindergarten	Learning about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in social studies and adding diverse stories to our classroom library.
1st Grade	Scholastic News on MLK Jr., Focus on MLK Jr.- we do a great project base on the I Have a Dream speech (they are up in our classrooms). Ruby Bridges is a big topic for us in February. We also watch "Kid President" all year long to get his take on things- such a great role model for the kids. In music, we learn African American Folk Songs and talk about African American composers.
2nd Grade	In Art, students are studying the artwork of African American artist Faith Ringgold. Students will read her book Tar Beach and do a piece of art inspired by the story. We have a Heroes and Leaders unit that highlights a diverse group of people who have positively impacted the world. In SEL we do a highlight of Martin Luther King Jr., and a unit that focuses on the power of our words. In music, we learn African American Folk Songs and talk about African American composers.
3rd Grade	Reading aloud books (The Other Side) and biographies (Who Was Harriet Tubman), making a class poster of 6-word memoirs featuring important change makers in this area. In Art, students will be introduced to the work of the African American Artist Betye Saar. They will study how artists use symbols to tell personal stories about themselves and their cultures. In music, we learn African American Folk Songs and talk about African American composers.
4th Grade	SEL- 1) Reading biographies about known and unknown African Americans. 2) After reading, making "Did you know _____"? posters to post around the school for others to learn. 3) Posters include what the person is known for and how he/she inspires us. *If you need photos of this, Esther can share them. In music, we learn African American Folk Songs and talk about African

	American instruments.
5th Grade	<p>In Art, 5th grade students will be studying the African American artist Betye Saar. The students will learn how she uses her personal history to make art about her life and her culture.</p> <p>Design Thinking/SEL - Students began by reading about slavery coming to the Americas from their Social Studies textbook. Together we learned about Ruby Bridges and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and spent the last few weeks exploring who they'd like to study for Black History Month. They have selected 1 person and they will create a documentary about them. We hope to present these films in mid-end of March.</p>
6th Grade	In ELA, we wrap up our <i>A Long Walk to Water</i> unit, which covers the Lost Boys' journey from South Sudan and Salva Dut's mission to provide clean water to villages in South Sudan. We discuss the emigration of many of these refugees into the United States and then we wrap our unit with a research project about Teen Activists.
7th Grade	In the 7th grade poetry unit, we study and analyze the works of the following African American poets: Langston Hughes, Gwendolyn Brooks, and Maya Angelou.
8th Grade	<p>8th grade will be beginning their study of the Civil Rights Movement in preparation for reading <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>. In particular, we analyze the events and impact of the movement, reading and annotating the accounts of key members of the movement such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, the Little Rock 5, and more. This historical study culminates in the creation of a fact-based historical narrative, where students write from the perspective of a character within the Civil Rights Era.</p> <p>8th grade Social Studies completed their third unit on the Constitution and participated in discussions and debates about the Bill of Rights, the concept of civil rights and suffrage, and how different populations in and out of the United States are impacted by the articles and amendments of one of our most foundational documents.</p>