

History Quest: United States

BLACK HISTORY ENRICHMENT READING



The first Black U.S. Senator was Hiram Revels, representing Mississippi. During his term, Revels used his power to speak out against racial segregation in public places like schools and railcars.

This Month's Quest: Learn about Black History in the United States by snuggling up with some great books.



Enrichment Reading Book titles link to Amazon. See pages 2–3 for a description of each book.

Ticktock Banneker's Clock by Shana Keller

Brick by Brick by Charles R. Smith Jr.

The Journey of York: The Unsung Hero of the Lewis and Clark Expedition by Hasan Davis

Priscilla and the Hollyhocks by Anne Broyles

Love Twelve Miles Long by Glenda Armand

Fearless Mary: Mary Fields, American Stagecoach Driver by Tami Charles

Mr. Crum's Potato Predicament by Anne Renaud

Ida B. Wells: Let the Truth Be Told by Walter Dean Myers

I, Too, Am America by Langston Hughes

Ruby Bridges Goes to School: My True Story by Ruby Bridges

This Is the Rope: A Story from the Great Migration by Jacqueline Woodson

The Youngest Marcher: The Story of Audrey Faye Hendricks by Cynthia Levinson

Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race by Margot Lee Shetterly

Lillian's Right to Vote by Jonah Winter and Shane W. Evans

Change Sings: A Children's Anthem by Amanda Gorman



Araminta Ross, also known as Harriet Tubman, led many people to freedom on the Underground Railroad.



Enrichment Reading

Book titles link to Amazon.

When *History Quest: United States* is available later this year, readers will learn Black history as a key component of U.S. history woven throughout the chapter book and study guide. For those celebrating Black History Month, here are book recommendations from several units of the study guide to consider ordering from your library or favorite bookstore. As always, please preview these books ahead of time for sensitive readers.

Unit 3–American Revolution

Ticktock Banneker's Clock by Shana Keller. This is a gorgeously illustrated biography of colonial era math and science expert Benjamin Banneker.

Unit 4–Constitution

Brick by Brick by Charles R. Smith Jr. This book, written in a poetic form, tells the story of the enslaved people who were forced to build the original White House, which was later destroyed during the War of 1812. Floyd Cooper's illustrations personalize the story. For more information, check out the last page where the author provides additional historical context.

Unit 5–Corps of Discovery

The Journey of York: The Unsung Hero of the Lewis and Clark Expedition by Hasan Davis. In *History Quest*, you will learn about the Corps of Discovery largely through the story of Sacagawea. This beautifully illustrated book tells the same story from the perspective of York, the man enslaved by William Clark.

Unit 6–Trail of Tears

Priscilla and the Hollyhocks by Anne Broyles. This picture book by Cherokee author Broyles tells the true story of a young girl who was separated from her mother, enslaved to a Cherokee family, and forced to walk the Trail of Tears. Be sure to read the Author's Note for more historical context.

Unit 7–Resistance to Slavery

Love Twelve Miles Long by Glenda Armand. In *History Quest*, you will learn about family bonds as a form of resistance, and no children’s book portrays this better than this one.

Unit 10–Reconstruction

Fearless Mary: Mary Fields, American Stagecoach Driver by Tami Charles. This is the true story of the first Black female stagecoach driver, who beat out 40 men to earn her job.

Unit 12–Innovation and Industry

Mr. Crum’s Potato Predicament by Anne Renaud. Not every invention in the early 20th century involved electric gadgets and gizmos. Read this fun book to learn about the legend behind a very important culinary discovery—potato chips!

Unit 14–Women’s Suffrage

Ida B. Wells: Let the Truth Be Told by Walter Dean Myers. This is a pleasing picture book about Ida B. Wells-Barnett, including her early life, anti-lynching activism, and participation in the women’s rights movement.

Unit 15–Roaring Twenties

I, Too, Am America by Langston Hughes. Bryan Collier’s gorgeous illustrations bring the famous Hughes poem to life. Be sure to read the Illustrator’s Note at the end of the book for more background on how Collier chose to represent the poem.

Unit 18–Judicial Branch

Ruby Bridges Goes to School: My True Story by Ruby Bridges. This Level 2 Scholastic Reader is appropriate for younger students to read independently or for anyone who wants to learn Ruby’s story in her own words.

Unit 19–Cold War

This Is the Rope: A Story from the Great Migration by Jacqueline Woodson. Although not specifically about the Cold War, part of this book takes place during the Cold War era. The story follows a jump rope through three generations of family members.

Unit 20–Civil Rights

The Youngest Marcher: The Story of Audrey Faye Hendricks by Cynthia Levinson. This is the remarkable story of Audrey Faye Hendricks, who was willing to go to jail at age 9 to support the push for civil rights.

Unit 22–Scientific Achievements

Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race by Margot Lee Shetterly. This book tells the story of Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson, and Christine Darden. Information about their crucial work on the space program is set against the backdrop of segregated America.

Unit 25–Elections

Lillian’s Right to Vote by Jonah Winter and Shane W. Evans. This is the story of a 100-year-old Black woman and her journey to her local polling location, interspersed with voting rights history in the United States.

Unit 26–Challenges and Opportunities

Change Sings: A Children’s Anthem by Amanda Gorman. This is a wonderful message of hope, tolerance, and citizenship.