

February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				Langston Hughes' Birthdate 1901-1967	Visit The National Museum Of African American History & Culture	Lunch Counter Sit-Ins In Greensboro, NC 1960
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Rosa Parks' Birthdate February 4, 1913	Hank Aaron's Birthdate February 5, 1934	Read <i>Philip Reid Saves the Statue of Freedom</i>	Learn About Bessie Coleman ...first African American female pilot	Explore African American Inventors	Follow Your Dreams!	Read <i>Aunt Harriet's Underground Railroad</i> by Faith Ringgold
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Nelson Mandela Released From Prison In South Africa February 11, 1990	Read about Booker T. Washington	Creation Of The Negro National League February 13, 1920	Learn About Zora Neale Hurston	Alice Coachman, 1923-2014 Learn about the first female African American Olympic medalist	Who was Jimmy Winkfield?	Michael Jordan's Birthday February 17, 1963
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Toni Morrison's Birthdate February 18, 1931	Read <i>The Watsons Go to Birmingham</i> 1963	Frederick Douglass died on this day in 1895	Rep. John Lewis's Birthdate February 21, 1940	Read <i>Hope's Gift</i>	W.E.B. Du Bois's Birthdate 1868-1963	Learn the true story of a basketball player turned farmer
25	26	27	28	29		

MLK, Jr. Was Ordained As A Baptist Minister February 1948	Learn The Story Of Master Craftsman, Dave The Potter 1801-1874	Marian Anderson's Birthdate 1897-1993	Read <i>The Moon Over Star</i>	Learn about a famous Harlem bookstore		
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February 1, 2024**Thursday****Langston Hughes' Birthdate**

Poet Langston Hughes was born on February 1, 1901 (1901-1967). Read *Visiting Langston*, to learn about a little girl who is a poet who discovers the poetry of Langston Hughes. It is a wonderful introduction to the work and world of Langston Hughes, who was a central figure of the Harlem Renaissance and an American cultural hero.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/visiting-langston>

February 2, 2024**Friday****Visit the National Museum of African American History & Culture**

The National Museum of African American History & Culture opened in 2016. Explore the museum virtually & interactively through the View Resources button.

Also, take a look at the ABC book, *A Is For All the Things You Are: A Joyful ABC Book* which was developed by the museum and celebrates what makes us unique as individuals and connects us as humans. Take a look at the book through the link: <https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/all-things-you-are-joyful-abc-book>

<https://www.searchablemuseum.com/>

February 3, 2024**Saturday****Lunch counter sit-ins in Greensboro, NC**

The core of the Civil Rights Movement involved non-violent protests. Sit-ins became a popular way of protesting. Learn more with the book *Freedom on the Menu*.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/freedom-menu-greensboro-sit-ins>

February 4, 2024**Sunday**

Rosa Parks' Birthdate

February 4, 1913 is the birthdate of Rosa Parks (1913-2005). Learn about the influential woman who helped start a movement with *A Picture Book of Rosa Parks*.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/picture-book-rosa-parks>

February 5, 2024**Monday**

Hank Aaron's Birthdate

February 5, 1934 is the birthdate of Hammering Hank! (1934-2021). For a closer look at this famous baseball legend and trail blazer, read *Hank Aaron: Brave in Every Way*.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/hank-aaron-brave-every-way>

February 6, 2024**Tuesday**

Philip Reid died on February 6, 1892. Learn more about the enslaved person who solved a construction puzzle to save the statue atop the Capitol Building.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/philip-reid-saves-statue-freedom>

February 7, 2024**Wednesday**

Learn about Bessie Coleman

Bessie Coleman was a pioneer in the sky in the 1920s. Read *Nobody Owns the Sky: The Story of "Brave Bessie" Coleman*, then explore word games and STEM-based activities based on aviation.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/nobody-owns-sky>

February 8, 2024
Thursday

Explore African American Inventors

Read *What Color Is My World?: The Lost History of African-American Inventors* by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. Celebrate the accomplishments of Black inventors with activities, lesson plans, and vocabulary scaffolds.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/what-color-my-world-lost-history-african-american-inventors>

February 9, 2024
Friday

Follow Your Dreams!

Do you have a dream you hope to follow? So did Patricia Bath. She made it her mission to become a doctor, even when obstacles threatened her goal. But she persevered! Read about this amazing doctor & scientist in *The Doctor With an Eye for Eyes: The Story of Dr. Patricia Bath*.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/doctor-eye-eyes-story-dr-patricia-bath>

February 10, 2024
Saturday

Introduce students to the extraordinary accomplishments of Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad with lesson plans, activities, and vocabulary scaffold.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/aunt-harriet%E2%80%99s-underground-railroad-sky>

February 11, 2024
Sunday

Nelson Mandela released from prison in South Africa

On this day in 1990, Nelson Mandela was released from 27 years in prison in South Africa. Learn more about the man in the biography, *Nelson Mandela*.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/nelson-mandela>

February 12, 2024**Monday**

Booker T. Washington was an educator, author, orator, activist, and more (1856-1915). He also was the founder of the Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University). Read a fictionalized account of young Booker T. Washington in *More Than Anything Else* to learn more about this influential man.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/more-anything-else>

February 13, 2024**Tuesday**

Creation of the Negro National League

The Negro National League, the first viable Black baseball league, was formed February 13, 1920. It was formed under the leadership of Rube Foster, manager of the Chicago American Giants. Learn about Jackie Robinson, the first African American on a major league baseball team in *Teammates*.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/teammates>

February 14, 2024**Wednesday**

Learn about Zora Neale Hurston

Zora and Me is a fictionalized account of author Zora Neale Hurston's childhood in Eatonville, Florida. She was an American author, anthropologist, and filmmaker. Read Chapter 1, and then download a discussion guide for more information about this influential author and key figure of the Harlem Renaissance.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/zora-and-me>

February 15, 2024
Thursday

Alice Coachman, 1923-2014

High jumper Alice Coachman was the first female African American to win a gold medal at the Olympics in 1948. Read her story in *Touch the Sky: Alice Coachman, Olympic High*.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/touch-sky-alice-coachman-olympic-high-jumper>

February 16, 2024
Friday

Read *The Last Black King of the Kentucky Derby* to learn the story of jockey Jimmy Winkfield.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/last-black-king-kentucky-derby>

February 17, 2024
Saturday

Michael Jordan's Birthday

Read *Salt In His Shoes: Michael Jordan In Pursuit Of A Dream*, then try some of the RIF support materials related to the book.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/salt-his-shoes-michael-jordan-pursuit-dream>

February 18, 2024
Sunday

Toni Morrison's Birthdate

Author Toni Morrison was born on this day in 1931 (1931-2019). Celebrate by reading *Peeny Butter Fudge*, written by Toni Morrison and her son, Slade Morrison.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/peeny-butter-fudge>

February 19, 2024
Monday

This novel tells the story of a family traveling from Michigan to Alabama who witness the tragic bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/watsons-go-birmingham%E2%80%94941963>

February 20, 2024
Tuesday

Frederick Douglass was an abolitionist who lived 1818-1895. Read *Frederick Douglass (National Geographic Kids)* to learn more about this famous orator and statesman.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/frederick-douglass-national-geographic-kids>

February 21, 2024
Wednesday

Rep. John Lewis's Birthdate

Read *Preaching to the Chickens* and learn how John Lewis (1940-2020) got his start and how he was inspired by Martin Luther King, Jr. He was an American politician, statesman, and civil rights activist & leader who served in the United States House of Representatives for Georgia.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/preaching-chickens-story-young-john-lewis>

February 22, 2024
Thursday

Hope's Gift was written to commemorate the Emancipation Proclamation. It was written from the perspective of a young enslaved girl.

Again through the National Museum of African American History & Culture explore the topic of race, a difficult but necessary ongoing discussion. <https://nmaahc.si.edu/learn/talking-about-race>

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/hopes-gift>



February 23, 2024

Friday

W.E.B. Du Bois's Birthdate

W.E.B. Du Bois, African American activist, writer, and historian, was born on February 23, 1868 (1868-1963). Read *W.E.B. Du Bois* for more information on this early Civil Rights activist.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/w-e-b-du-bois>

February 24, 2024

Saturday

Read *Farmer Will Allen and the Growing Table* to learn about one man's vision for feeding an urban community.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/farmer-will-allen-and-growing-table>

February 25, 2024

Sunday

MLK, Jr. was ordained as a Baptist minister

Read *Martin's Big Words* to learn more about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life, mission, and legacy.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/martins-big-words>

February 26, 2024

Monday

Learn the story of master craftsman, Dave the Potter

Read *Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave* to learn more about 19th century enslaved artist, David Drake, better known as Dave the Potter.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/dave-potter>

February 27, 2024**Tuesday**

Marian Anderson's Birthdate

Learn more about opera star Marian Anderson (1897-1993) and her career struggles as an African American woman in the world of American opera in *When Marian Sang*.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/when-marian-sang>

February 28, 2024**Wednesday**

The Moon Over Star is the story of one girl's dream of becoming an astronaut after watching the 1969 moon landing. Discover lesson plans, activities, word games, and vocabulary scaffold to accompany the book.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/moon-over-star>

February 29, 2024**Thursday**

Read *The Book Itch: Freedom, Truth & Harlem's Greatest Bookstore* to learn more about this famous bookstore. It was frequented by many well-known people like Muhammad Ali, Malcom X, and Langston Hughes. It was started & operated by Louis H. Michaux between 1932 and 1974, and was known as the African National Memorial Bookstore. The bookstore was a gathering place for the sharing of stories & ideas, and encouraged a generation of students, intellectuals, writers, and artists. It was also an important reading room of the Civil Rights Movement.

<https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/book-itch-freedom-truth-harlems-greatest-bookstore>