

February 2026

Sandbox News



Building Blocks Learning Academy

Remember, Tuition is Due by February 5th!



In 1915, Dr. Carter G. Woodson and Rev. Jesse E. Moorland co-founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH). Their goal was to research and bring awareness to the largely ignored, yet crucial role black people played in American and world history. The following year, Woodson published and distributed his findings in The Journal of Negro History. He founded the publication with the hope that it would dispel popular mistruths. He also hoped to educate black people about their cultural back-

ground and instill them with a sense of pride in their race. He selected the month of February for the celebration as a way to honor of the birth of two men whose actions drastically altered the future of black Americans. Abraham Lincoln, the U.S. President who issued the Emancipation Proclamation was born on February 12th and Frederick Douglass, one of the nation's leading abolitionists was born on February 14th.

Dr. Carter G. Woodson died in 1950, but his legacy continued on as the celebration of Negro History Week was adopted by cities and organizations across the country.

The Black Power Movement of the 1970s emphasized racial pride and the significance of collective cultural values. This prompted the ASNLH, now called the Association for the

Study of African American Life and History, to change Negro History Week to Black History Week.

In 1976, they extended the week to a month-long observance.

Black History Month is now recognized and widely celebrated by the entire nation on both a scholarly and commercial level. The Association for the Study of African American Life and History continues to promote, preserve and research black history and culture year-round.



January Review

January brought some of the ugliest weather for January! However, here at Building Blocks, our spirits were warm with all of our January activities!

The school was closed Monday, January 19th to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and all of his amazing contributions to America.

For February, we return recharged and ready to put our new ideas to work! February will be an exciting month, which will include making some amazing foods and trying some African foods, Valentine's day class party, and much

more!!!

Valentine's Day parties will be held within your child(ren) classrooms. For the parties we will ask parents/guardians to bring in store bought items only. This will be a time where the children can "love" on one another through sweets and treats. We encourage love and unity within the classrooms. Can't wait to keep this amazing year going. So here's to a strong 2026.



Upcoming Dates

Copayments DUE	February 5th Thursday
Valentine's Day Party	February 13th Friday
Presidents' Day	February 16th Monday
School Closed	
Dental Awareness Month	All Month

My World



This month we are learning all about Africa and the African culture. We are planning to learn about African holidays, language, traditional garments, and even taste test African dishes. Ms. Denise, BBLA kitchen supervisor, will prepare unique African dishes for the children to taste.



Black History

Did you know...

The Black Man Invented the Following:

PENCIL SHARPENER • TROLLEY CAR POWER SYSTEM

1st TRAFFIC LIGHT • STREET SWEEPER TRUCK

CORN & COTTON SEED PLANTER • THE STRONG BOX

COMMON DUST PAN • AUTOMATIC ELEVATOR DOOR

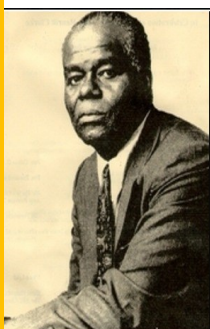
1st CLOTHES DRYER • FIRE ESCAPE LADDER

JENNY COUPLER FOR TRAIN CARS • FIRE EXTINGUISHER

• CARBON FILAMENT FOR THE LIGHTBULB •



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The acceptance of the facts of African-American history and the African-American historian as a legitimate part of the academic community did not come easily. Slavery ended and left its false images of black people intact.

— John Henrik Clarke —

AZ QUOTES

Black History Trivia Questions

- 1) The parents of Colin Powell immigrated from what country?
A.) Barbados
B.) Jamaica
C.) Haiti
- 2) What major U.S. city elected the first African American Mayor in 1967?
A.) Cleveland
B.) New Orleans
C.) Atlanta
- 3) What is 'Tiger Woods' real first name?
A.) Elmer
B.) Samuel
C.) Eldrick
- 4) What is the name of the great Civil Rights leader who won the Nobel Peace Prize and was assassinated in 1968?
A.) Martin Luther King Jr.
B.) Malcolm X
- 5) What is the name of the first African American who served on the U.S. Supreme Court?
A.) Barack Obama
B.) Thurgood Marshall
- 6) What is the name of the woman who helped over 300 escaped slaves flee to freedom in the North via the Underground Railroad?
A.) Rosa Parks
B.) Harriet Tubman
C.) New Orleans



PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

Barack Hussein Obama II is an American politician who served as the 44th President of the United States from 2009 to 2017. Barack Obama is the first African American president of the United States.

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FACTS



1619, The first African slaves arrive in Virginia.

1793, A federal fugitive slave law is enacted, providing for the return of slaves who had escaped and crossed state lines.



1849, Harriet Tubman escapes from slavery and becomes one of the most effective and celebrated leaders of the Underground

Railroad.

1857, The Dred Scott case holds that Congress does not have the right to ban slavery in states, and furthermore declares that slaves are not citizens.



1865, the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution is ratified, prohibiting slavery.

1868, the Fourteenth amendment to the Constitution is ratified, defining citizenship. Individuals born or naturalized in the United States are American citizens, including those born as slave. This nullifies the Dred Scott Case.

1870, the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution is ratified, giving blacks the right to vote.



1947, Jackie Robinson breaks Major League Baseball's color barrier when he is signed to the Brooklyn Dodgers.



1863, President Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation declaring, "that all persons held as slaves", within the confederate states, "are, and henceforward shall be free."

1955, Emmett Till is brutally murdered for allegedly whistling at a white woman.



1968, Martin Luther King Jr., is assassinated in Memphis Tennessee.



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2021- Kamala Harris, the first African American Female Vice President of the United States.



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