

No Mystery in Black History



Study Guide



Study Guide



Before the Performance

Learn how Black History Month was founded:

- [Celebrating Black History Month](#)
- [Here's the story behind Black History Month](#)
- [Origins of Black History Month](#)

Share Information about the Black Storytelling Tradition:

- The Tradition comes from West Africa
- Some names that mean Storyteller:
Griot (male), Griotte (female)
Djeli (male), Jalimuso (female)
- Genres: folktales, epics, fairytales, tall tales, legends, fables, riddles, proverbs, scary tales, myths, family stories, historical tales, porquoi

Selected Elements of Black Storytelling

- Purpose
- Performance
- Facial Expression
- Voice Tones
- Rhythm and Flow
- Body Movement
- Engaging the Audience

About the Performance

*What
LESSONS
do you
hear in the stories?*

Unforgettable lessons of heroes and heroines begins with a journey to West Africa with “Drum Story,” an introduction to the first drum in Africa. It continues with cultural meanings and messages that originated with the first drums and a story about the real African Lion King. The performance includes African American milestones from the enslavement, reconstruction, civil rights and black lives matter periods with stories, poetry, songs, call and response and rhythms. Historical figures such as Stagecoach Mary, Fannie Lou Hamer, Mamie Peanut Johnson, Malcom X and John Lewis are celebrated.

** Performances are customized to grade level*

Black History Activity

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West Africa

**What
languages
are
spoken?**

There are over 500 languages spoken in West Africa. Each of the countries have many national languages. Here are a few examples:

Gambia - Mandinka, Pullar, Wolof
Nigeria - Igbo, Yoruba, Housa
Senegal - Wolof, Malinke, Fula
Ghana - Twi, Akan, Ewe, Ga
Mali - Bambara, Dogon, Arabic

The countries were colonized.

Can you guess which language is their colonized language?

Country

1. **Gambia**
2. **Nigeria**
3. **Senegal**
4. **Ghana**
5. **Mali**

Second Language



The United Nations defines Western Africa as the following 16 countries and one territory:

- Benin
- Burkina Faso
- Cabo Verde (English name: Cape Verde)west africa
- Côte d'Ivoire (English name: Ivory Coast)
- The Gambia
- Ghana
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau
- Liberia
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha (This is a United Kingdom Overseas Territory)
- Senegal
- Sierra Leone
- Togo

Which country is the home of King Sundjiata Keita?

After the Performance

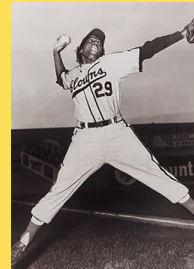
Match the Civil Rights Leaders and their image.

Black Civil Right Leaders

- a. Mary Mcleod Bethune
- b. Malcolm X
- c. Fannie Lou Hamer
- d. John Lewis
- e. Jackie Robinson
- f. Mamie Peanut Johnson

Which Black Civil Rights leaders matches the image ?

Write the letter that matches the image on the line below the photo



African Instruments Activity

Match the name of the instrument to the image.



Instruments

1. Log Drum
2. Slit Gong
3. Djembe
4. Cajons
5. Mbira



Black History Activity

BLACK INVENTORS

Match the History Maker and their Accomplishments.

History Maker

1. Garret A. Morgan
2. Richard B. Spikes
3. Madam C. J. Walker
4. George Washington Carver
5. Elijah McCoy
6. Granville T. Woods
7. Jan Matzeliger
8. Benjamin Banneker

Accomplishments

- ____A. Invented 300 uses for peanuts.
- ____B. Invented the automatic shoe lasting machine.
- ____C. Well known as inventor of lubricating oil cup, also invented a portable ironing board and lawn sprinkler.
- ____D. Invented a safety helmet and traffic signal.
- ____E. Inventor of specialized hair products for African-American hair.
- ____F. Known for 8 patents primarily related to automobile mechanics.
- ____G. Known for the successful prediction of a solar eclipse, publishing his own almanac, and design of Washington, D. C.
- ____H. Filed for more than 50 patents for improved electrical devices from telephones, to egg incubators and phonographs.





Resource Links

- [8 Books to Celebrate Black History Month](#)
- [19 Books that Celebrate Black History](#)
- [Activities: 34 Black History Month Activities for February and Beyond](#)
- [Activity: Black History Month 2023: Two Bessies on Two Wheels!](#)
- [Queen Nur](#) - Queen Nur website with videos, activities and other programs.

queennur.com / queennurstory@gmail.com

No Mystery in Black History: A history that crosses the Atlantic Ocean.



Gambia, West Africa

Photo Credit: Queen Nur



Cape May New Jersey, USA

Photo Credit: Queen Nur

Activity Answers

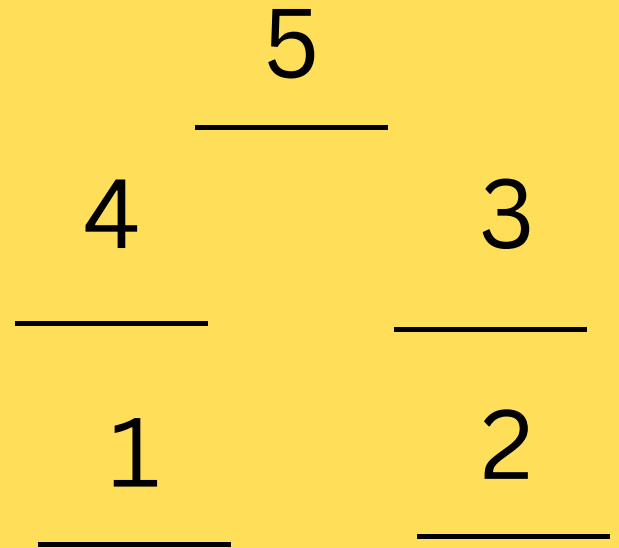
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What languages are spoken?

1. The Gambia - English
2. Nigeria - English
3. Senegal - French
4. Ghana - English
5. Mali - French

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African instruments



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Civil Rights leaders ?



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Black Inventors

- 4 - A.
- 7 - B.
- 5 - C.
- 1 - D.
- 3 - E.
- 2 - F.
- 8 - G.
- 6 - H.

Which country is the home of King Sundjiata Keita? Mali