

Black Peoples of the Americas

Videos

A Son of Africa

Author: Aimimage/Hidden Empire Series

The story of Olaudah Equiano, abducted into slavery in 1756, who became a leading figure in the campaign for the abolition of slavery. His autobiography brought a personal account of slavery to a middle class audience.

Catch a Fire

Author Aimimage/Hidden Empire Series

A half-hour programme from the Hidden Empire series examines the life of Paul Bogle. Often described as the 19th century Malcolm X, he attempted peaceful means to challenge the position of free blacks still chained to the plantation system. The murderous response of the magistrate and guard escalated to foment the Morant Bay Rebellion and the ruthless suppression of the protestors by Governor Eyre.

The Changing Face of Slavery

Author Anti-Slavery International
Anti-Slavery International, London, No ISBN

These two 15 minute films investigate the Trans Atlantic Slave Trade and Child Labour.
* Part One: This programme focuses on how and why the trade began and the factors involved in the trade and its abolition. It asks if the abolition was successful by exploring the issue of slavery in today's world.
*Part Two: Looks at children working in Britain at the time of the Industrial Revolution and explores child labour today. There is a teaching book to go with this video.

Posters

The long march to freedom

Author Amnesty International

A timeline of some of the people whose ideas, writings and actions have played a part in the struggle for human rights and justice across the world.

African Diaspora Chart

Author Spartacus Educational

A large poster documenting the spread of African peoples and achievements of people of the African diaspora.

General Histories & Primary Sources

The Routledge Atlas of African American History

Author Jonathan Earle
Routledge, London, 2000, ISBN 0415921368

This book gives a concise and authoritative summary of African American history which focuses on African Americans actively resisting the racism of American society to create their own history within that racist framework. Includes maps, tables and photographs. Covers such rare topics as the African-American move to the Western states - the Exodusters, Buffalo soldiers, the Negro Baseball League, African American Musical Traditions, as well as the more usual areas of history.

Black Peoples of the Americas

Author Nigel Kelly

Provides historical narrative and source materials, with fact boxes and biographies. Begins by looking at the ways black people have been left out of history books. Moves chronologically through the first contacts with Africa, the slave trade and resistance, civil war, the depression and on to the struggle for civil rights in the modern period. Profiles many important black leaders. This is a valuable resource.

Black Peoples of America

Author Ann Kramer
Franklin Watts, 2003, ISBN 074965192

A brief introduction to all key areas, with summaries, fact files and mini-biographies.

Black Peoples in the Americas

Author Marika Sherwood
Savannah Press, 1992, ISBN 0951972006

Designed as a handbook for teachers at KS3. Serves as an introduction to the African Diaspora. Divided into sections on background; the slave trade; slave economies; slaves and free blacks; emancipation; the British Caribbean 1833-1860; the US 1865-1910; Diaspora Africans and Africa.

Britain and the Black Peoples of the Americas, 1550-1930

Author Joan Tucker & Carmen Lewis
JET Publications, 1992 ISBN 0951807617

Two booklets of teacher's notes and pupil exercises which is unusual in looking at slavery in the wider context of industrial revolution and social unrest. Includes some very useful exercises for students.

Call and Response: The Riverside Anthology of the African American Literary Tradition

Editor Patricia Liggins Hill
Houghton Mifflin, 1998

This is a comprehensive chronological anthology of African American literature both oral and written, including songs, sermons, poetry, journals, criticism. Includes an accompanying CD

The Norton Anthology of African American Literature

Editors Henry Louis Gates & Nellie McKay
Norton, New York, 1997

Provides a rich overview of African American literature including work from 120 authors from 1746 to the present. There is an accompanying CD.

African Roots

African Beginnings

Author James Haskins and Kathleen Benson.
Lothrop, New York, 1998 ISBN 0688102573

A beautifully illustrated book that introduces the great civilizations and kingdoms of Ancient Africa: Nubia, Egypt, Kush & Meroe, Jenne-jeno, Ghana, Mali, Songhay, Timbuktu, Benin, Great Zimbabwe, Kongo. The book also explores themes (art, music) and the impact of European trade, slavery and colonization.

Ancient African Town

Author Fiona MacDonald and Gerald Wood.
Franklin Watts, New York, 1998 ISBN 0749627611

This book is a guided tour around a West African town in the late 17th century. The town is based on the great city of Benin, capital of the Edo empire. Readers 'visit' various places and people in the town.

History in Writing :Slavery From Africa To The Americas

Author/Editor Christine Hatt.
Evans, London, 1997 ISBN 023752071

Provides history through original documents

Slavery

Black Heroes of the American Revolution

Author Burke Davis

Black Heroes retells the story of African Americans involved in the battles of the American Revolutionary War, including Crispus Attucks, William Lee, Oliver Cromwell, George Latham, Edward Hector and Austin Dabney.

Slavery

Author Elizabeth Frostrick

A factpack containing replicas of original pictures, photographs, broadsheets, political tracts, newspaper articles, songs and poems, letters, accounts and returns all relating to Britain's involvement in the slave trade and the Caribbean.

Liverpool - Capital of the Slave Trade

Author Gail Cameron

By the beginning of the nineteenth century, Liverpool had control of 90% of Britain's share of the slave trade. Slave traders belonged to the most affluent and powerful sections of society. This book traces the central place of slavery in the foundations of Liverpool's wealth and institutions, and the spin-off in Liverpool's hinterland, including Manchester. It describes the opposition of leading members of society to the abolition of the slave trade and the attempts to justify the trade. A concluding section shows how Liverpool's historians have obscured the role played by the town as the capital of the British slave trade.

Bound for America

Author James Haskins & Kathleen Benson
Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, New York, 1999, ISBN 0688102581

A picture book for older readers about the beginnings of slavery and the middle passage, illustrated with historic prints, photographs and paintings. "While it shocks us with man's cruelty and inhumanity, it is also a powerful tribute to the survivors of the Middle Passage". This book also contains a very useful timeline on slavery and slave revolts.

The Slave Trade

Author James Walvin

Provides an introduction to the slave trade and its consequences. An up-to-date narrative for students.

Transatlantic Slavery Against Human Dignity

Author National Museums & Galleries on Merseyside

NMGM, Liverpool, no ISBN

A 12 page introduction to slavery, which concisely but authoritatively summarizes all key issues.

Freedom's Wings Book 1
Flying Free Book 2

Author Sharon Dennis Wyeth
Scholastic, 2001 & 2002, ISBN Book 1 043936907 Book 2 0439369088

Written as a young boy's diary, these two books tell the story of the Underground Railroad and the flight of a slave family to freedom in Canada, and the ever-present danger of slave catchers

Civil Rights

Through My Eyes

Author Ruby Bridges
Scholastic, 1999, 0590546309

Ruby Bridges was among the first children to challenge segregation in New Orleans when she climbed the steps of William Frantz elementary school in 1960. The picture of her being escorted to school through violent and hostile crowds became a metaphor of the Civil Rights era. This book is her autobiography of those childhood experiences.

If you lived at the time of Martin Luther King

Author Ellen Levine
Scholastic, New York, 1994, ISBN 059042582

Tells what it was like during the Civil Rights Era answering such questions as when did the civil rights movement begin? Were children involved in the civil rights movement? What was the march on Washington.

The Day Martin Luther King Jr was Shot

Author Jim Haskins
Scholastic, New York, 1992, ISBN 0590436619

Provides a photo history of the Civil Rights Movement, that puts the activism of the 1950s & 60s into the longer struggle for African American freedom and equality.

The Eyes on the Prize Civil Rights Reader

Author Clayborne Carson
Penguin, 1991, ISBN 0140154035

Provides key documents, speeches and firsthand accounts from the black freedom struggle 1954-1990. Introduced by Vincent Harding.

Freedom School, Yes!

Author Amy Littlesugar & Floyd Cooper
Philomel Books, 2001, ISBN 0399230068

A triumphant story based on the 1964 Freedom Summer in Mississippi. The book celebrates the strength of the people and the bravery of one young girl who didn't let being scared be in her way.

Freedom Fighters

Rebels Against Slavery

Author Patricia C McKissack

This takes a closer look at African American revolts against slavery from colonial times. These unforgotten people and moments in history are depicted here in a heart felt exciting tribute to those who fought and often died for their rights .

Many Thousand Gone

Author Virginia Hamilton

A book of biographical stories about African Americans, from slavery to freedom.

Demanding Justice: A story Mary Ann Shadd Cary

Author Jeri Chase Ferris
Carolrhoda Books, Minneapolis, 2003, ISBN 087614928

Contains a biography of Mary Ann Shadd Cary, born free in 1823. She became the first black woman to publish a weekly newspaper and enter law school.

Martin Luther King Jr, Civil Rights Hero

Author Anna Claybourne
Hodder Wayland, 2001, ISBN 0750238844

A well-illustrated biography of King, filled with many photographs.

Martin Luther King Jr

Author David Downing
Heinemann, 2002, ISBN 0431138745

Provides a detailed biography of King with maps and photographs.

I Have a Dream

Author Dr Martin Luther King, with a foreword by Coretta Scott King
Scholastic Press, New York, 1997, ISBN 0590205161

This book contains the famous dream speech made by Dr.King in Washington in August 1963, illustrated by 15 award winning artists.

Malcolm X

Author David Downing
Heinemann Leading Lives, 2003, ISBN 0431138664

A detailed biography of legendary Africa American leader Malcolm X, with photos, primary written and pictorial sources and a detailed timeline.

I am Rosa Parks

Author Rosa Parks & Jim Haskins
Puffin, 1997, ISBN 0141307102

The best book on Rosa Parks for young readers as this has been written with Parks' collaboration. She tells her autobiography in an easy to read style: in simple language, large well-spaced type and illustrations on every page, designed for Infant and lower Junior children.

Rosa Parks My Story

Author Rosa Parks & Jim Haskins
Puffin, 1999, ISBN 0141301201

A very detailed autobiography for able readers, with the first chapter focussed on the bus protest and Parks' memories of her grandparents, but then the story is told chronologically. A good book for placing the bus boycott story within Rosa Parks' much longer history of activism.

Freedom Like Sunlight

Author J. Patrick Lewis
Creative Paperbacks, 2000, ISBN 0898123828

Contains beautifully illustrated poems in tribute to African American heroes from Sojourner Truth to Malcolm X.

Caribbean

The Great Wave 1492-1992

Author CAFOD

A resource pack which gives an alternative history: of the destruction and exploitation in the Caribbean that followed Columbus.

Encounter

Author Jane Yolen

Yolen has written a fictional version of the arrival of Columbus in the New World, from the point of view of a young boy of the Taino people - the original inhabitants of what became San Salvador.

Emancipation to emigration: Caribbean history

Author R Greenwood

Excellent coverage of the major events in Caribbean history, from the period of Spanish-English rivalry for control of the Caribbean, through emancipation, to the early 20th century and the mass migration of Caribbeans to the American mainland.

Suggested age range 15 upwards

Development and Decolonisation

Author S Hamber

Last in series of 3 books on Caribbean history, which covers periods in later Caribbean history from 1800's onwards. This volume covers more diverse topics such as: American intervention in the Caribbean, trade unions in the Caribbean, Independence movements, and art forms and religion in the Caribbean,