washington DC PRESENTS

LEARNING ON LOCATION

Episode 2: Black History Month

DISCUSSION



- 1. Read about the origins of <u>Black History Month</u>. Why is Black History Month important? How was founder Carter G. Woodson impacted by President Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass and Mary McLeod Bethune? How does this history connect to events we discussed in the video?
- 2. Listen to descendants of Frederick Douglass read portions of his "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?" speech. How does it relate to current events? Discuss your thoughts and compare the issues facing the Black community, then and now.
- **3.** What impact did the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in 1963 have on the Civil Rights Movement? What role did marches and peaceful protests play in the Civil Rights Movement? What similarities do you see to current events?
- **4.** The Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum tells the stories of Washington, DC's diverse communities. Take a look at their virtual exhibit, "A Right to the City" to learn more. How has your community been shaped by diverse stories?
- 5. Which location highlighted in this video interests you most?

EXPLORATION



AMERICA'S FOUNDING AND SLAVERY

 George Washington's Mount Vernon acknowledges the impact enslaved people had on the daily running of Washington's plantation, with <u>exhibits</u> <u>and specialty tours</u>. Learn about living conditions, stories of individual enslaved people and much more.



CIVIL WAR TO CIVIL RIGHTS

- President Lincoln's assassination, mentioned in this video, occurred at Ford's Theatre in Washington, DC on April 15, 1865. Use the <u>museum's tools</u> to understand how Lincoln's death affected the country and racial equality after the Civil War.
- Research the connection between <u>President Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass</u>. How did these two men influence each other?
- Learn more about how we celebrate the abolition of slavery with <u>DC's Emancipation Day</u> and <u>Juneteenth</u>, the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the U.S.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

- Martin Luther King, Jr. frequented the historic Shaw neighborhood, including Ben's Chili Bowl. In this <u>news article</u>, owner Virginia Ali speaks about Dr. King and current civil rights protests.
- Learn more about <u>DC's Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton</u> and her role in the Civil Rights Movement. Be sure to <u>listen to her thoughts</u> on Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech.
- Washington, DC has a strong connection to Rosa Parks. Learn about the time she lived and entertained at <u>The Mansion on O Street.</u>

BLACK MUSIC AND ART

- Washington, DC's Black community has made a great impact on American music. Take a listen to Duke Ellington, Marvin Gaye (he was born here, too!), Chuck Brown, Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holliday and Sara Vaughan. How has their music shaped music today?
- Read the lyrics to "<u>Lift Every Voice and Sing (the Black National Anthem)</u>." What makes this song special? Why do you think music has been so important to the Black community?
- The murals featured in this video were painted by DC muralist, Aniekan Udofia. You can <u>see his work</u> and tons of <u>other amazing murals</u> all around the city!



<u>African American Civil War Museum and Memorial</u>

Ben's Chili Bowl

Black Broadway on U

Black Lives Matter Plaza

Chuck Brown Memorial Park

Cultural Tourism DC: U Street Neighborhood and Black Broadway

Frederick Douglass House

Go-Go Symphony

Howard University

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House

Mary McLeod Bethune Memorial

President Lincoln's Cottage

Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum

Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture

Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

Visit Washington, DC

