

Black History Month



John Blanke

(late 15th century - early 16th century)

- A trumpeter for King Henry VII and King Henry VIII, an important position.
- John performed at many important royal events including the Coronation of Henry VIII (when he became king).
- He asked Henry VIII for more money, which the king gave him.
- When John got married, Henry VIII gave him a wedding outfit as a gift.



Mary Seacole

(1805 - 1881)

- Mary was born in Jamaica.
- Having travelled to London, she asked the British government to send her as a nurse in the Crimean War (1853 - 1856).
- The government refused. However, Mary used her own money to travel to Crimea. She cared for soldiers there.
- Mary saved many lives.

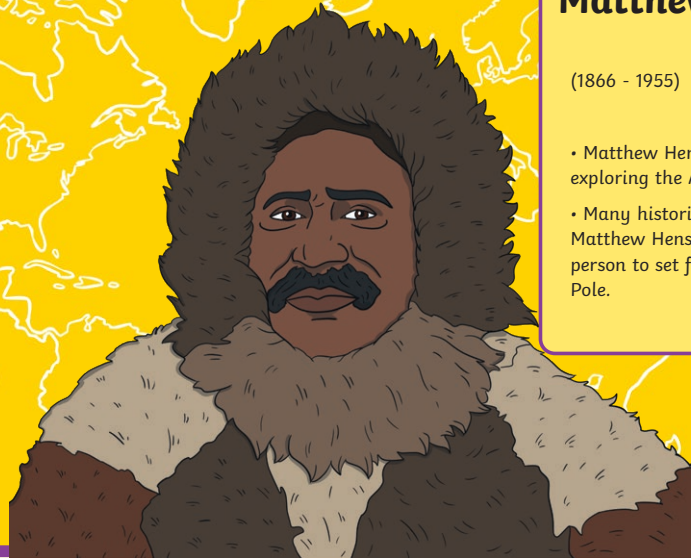


Arthur Wharton

(1865 - 1930)

- Was born in what is now Ghana.
- He became the first Black professional (paid) footballer when he signed for Rotherham United in 1889.





Matthew Henson

(1866 - 1955)

- Matthew Henson is famous for exploring the Arctic.
- Many historians believe that Matthew Henson was the first person to set foot on the North Pole.



Jesse Owens

(1913 - 1980)

- Jesse was an American athlete who competed in running races and the long jump.
- He took part in the 1936 Berlin Olympics.
- Jesse won four gold medals at the Berlin Olympics.

Nelson Mandela

(1918 - 2013)

- He was born in South Africa, where Black people were treated very badly.
- Nelson campaigned for Black people to be treated equally.
- He was sent to prison, where he stayed for 27 years.
- After he was freed, Nelson Mandela became the first Black president of South Africa.



Katherine Johnson

(1918 - 2020)

- When she started university in 1939, Katherine was one of three Black students in the whole university.
- She started working for NASA, the American space organisation, in 1953.
- Katherine used her skills to plan routes into space.
- She helped send astronauts to the Moon and back.

Lonnie Johnson

(1949 - present)

- Dr Lonnie Johnson is a famous American inventor.
- One of his inventions is a powerful water gun called The Super Soaker.
- He is working on a machine called the JTEC. This aims to make it easier to turn solar energy into electricity.



Barack Obama

(1961 - present)

- Barack was born in Hawaii.
- He became a lawyer and politician.
- He was the first Black president of the USA.
- In 2009, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.



Maggie Aderin-Pocock

(1968 - present)

- Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock is a British scientist who specialises in Space.
- She has worked on developing some very powerful telescopes.
- Maggie is passionate about helping others to learn. She has her own company that works to educate people about science. She has also appeared on television many times, sharing her knowledge about Space.

