



Celebrating Black American Arts

UNIT: Black History Month
GRADE: 7-12

Length of Lesson: 3 class periods (50 minutes each)

Standards Addressed:

(Minnesota Language Arts) Reading 5.7, 5.10; Writing 7.6, 7.7, 7.8; Speaking, Viewing, Listening, and Media Literacy 9.5

Objectives:

Students will be able to.....

1. Evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats.
2. Read and comprehend information texts independently and proficiently.
3. Use technology to produce and publish writing, and to interact and collaborate with others.
4. Conduct short research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
5. Gather relevant information from multiple digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information.
6. Make strategic use of digital media and visual display of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.

Materials Needed:

Computers with internet access, printers, pencils, paper, markers, glue, posterboard and/or colored paper, scissors, various materials for experiments as needed by students, assignments sheet and rubric (attached), pictures for stations in anticipatory set

Meeting needs of individual, ethnic, and diverse students:

Example – use of multiple learning styles (tactile, verbal, auditory, visual, cooperative, etc.), use of multiple discussion formats (linear, non-sequitur, partner, groups, etc.)

LINEAR, VERBAL, AUDITORY, VISUAL, COOPERATIVE, KINESTHETIC, TACTILE

Agenda:

About 15 minutes	Anticipatory set – Find pictures of several items connected to Black Heritage (examples could be: soulfood cuisine, jazz musicians, tap or hip-hop dancers, famous quotes, historic African American figures, etc.). Set up 6 stations around the room. Give students one minute to look at the picture at each station and record what they think is shown, and then rotate to all other stations. Re-group and discuss the pictures. The goal is to stimulate prior knowledge of students.
About 5 minutes	Introduce the project (use the assignment sheet and rubric provided). This can be done as individual projects or partner projects.
Remainder of Day 1	Worktime for students to research on computers, put together posters and writings, and practice performances.
Day 2	Worktime for students to research on computers, put together posters and writings, and practice performances.
Day 3	Posters and Performances. Give time for students to gallery walk and observe the posters of other classmates – maybe 5-10 minutes. Performances given – these should be short and very informal.
Last 2-3 minutes	Exit Ticket. Students write down three new things that they learned during this project, either through their own research or through the posters/presentations of classmates. Due as students exit the classroom.

Assessment(s):

Independent researching, poster/presentation/paragraph, gallery walk, exit ticket



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Black History Month

Artist Research Project and Presentation

Name _____ Period _____

Research and perform a Black American dance style!

Research Black American dances. Choose one traditional dance style and learn one routine to perform for the class. In preparation, you must record specific information about the dance you chose in the format of a poster. Include: the name of the dance, which artist is most known for this dance, the type of music used while dancing this style, what time period this dance style is most associated with, and three pictures showing Black artists dancing this style. Write one paragraph sharing how Black American dance has impacted our country.

Rubric:

Name of dance is given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Names of most known dancers	0	1	2	3	4	5
Music used during this dance style is given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Time period of the dance given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Three pictures of the dance is shown	0	1	2	3	4	5
Written paragraph of the impact of Black American dance	0	1	2	3	4	5

Research and re-create Black American artwork!

Research Black American artists, and choose one specific artist. You will re-create one of their works with your own hand. In preparation, you must record specific information about the artist you chose in the format of a poster. Include: the name of work of art you re-create, the names of other Black American artists, the genre of the artwork of your choice, what time period this artist is most associated with, and three pictures of the artist or works. Write one paragraph sharing how Black American visual arts have impacted our country.

Rubric:

Name of the artwork is given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Names of other artists given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Genre of the artwork is given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Time period of the artist given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Three pictures of the artist or works is shown	0	1	2	3	4	5
Written paragraph of the impact of Black American visual art	0	1	2	3	4	5

Research and perform a piece of Black American music on an instrument!

Research Black American musicians, and choose one specific musician. You will perform one piece of music on an instrument for the class. In preparation, you must record specific information about the musician you chose in the format of a poster. Include: the name of the piece of music you will perform, the names of other Black American musicians, the genre of the piece you perform, what time period this musician is most associated with, and three pictures of the musician. Write one paragraph sharing how Black American music has impacted our country.

Rubric:

Name of performance piece of music is given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Names of most known musicians is given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Genre of the piece you perform is given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Time period of the musician is given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Three pictures of the musician is shown	0	1	2	3	4	5
Written paragraph of the impact of Black American musicians	0	1	2	3	4	5

Research and perform a dramatic reading or a skit based on Black American writing!

Research Black American writers, and choose one specific author. You will perform one piece of writing as a dramatic reading or a skit for the class. In preparation, you must record specific information about the writer you chose in the format of a poster. Include: the name of the writing you will perform, the names of other Black American writers, the genre of the piece of writing you perform, what time period this author is most associated with, and three pictures of the writer. Write one paragraph sharing how Black American writers have impacted our country.

Rubric:

Name of the writer is given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Names of other writers given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Genre of the writing is given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Time period of the author given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Three pictures of the writer is shown	0	1	2	3	4	5
Written paragraph of the impact of Black American writers	0	1	2	3	4	5

Research and re-create a science experiment/discovery of a Black American scientist!

Research Black American scientists, and choose one specific scientist. You will perform one experiment for the class. In preparation, you must record specific information about the scientist you chose in the format of a poster. Include: the name of the experiment you will perform, the names of other Black American scientists, why this experiment was important, what time period this scientist is most associated with, and three pictures of the scientist. Write one paragraph sharing how Black American scientists have impacted our country.

Rubric:

Name of the experiment is given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Names of other scientists given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Reason why this experiment was important is given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Time period of the scientist is given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Three pictures of the scientist is shown	0	1	2	3	4	5
Written paragraph of the impact of Black American scientists	0	1	2	3	4	5

Research and re-create a traditional soulfood meal of Black American culture!

Research Black American cuisine. You will prepare one meal of this cuisine at home and take pictures of your results. In preparation, you must record specific information about this cuisine in the format of a poster. Include: the names of at least five items you will be preparing in the meal, the names of Black American chefs, a description of each item you prepare, what time period this cuisine is most associated with, and three pictures of the meal. Write one paragraph sharing how Black American cuisine has impacted our country.

Rubric:

Names of at least 5 items are given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Names of other chefs given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Descriptions of all items are given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Time period of the cuisine is given	0	1	2	3	4	5
Three pictures of the meal is shown	0	1	2	3	4	5
Written paragraph of the impact of Black American cuisine	0	1	2	3	4	5