

STEM in the News

In February, people in the town of Grand Rapids flock to the Facebook page of one mom named Talyor Trotter. They come to the page because Talyor and her 5-year-old daughter Paisley do a month-long dress up of famous African



Americans. The 5-year-old and her mother started this tradition when she was 3 years old. The mother wants her to learn about the history of black people

and for her to have a fun time doing it. On the very last day of the month, the mother gets the daughter to dress up and reminds herself that she is a part of history too.

“The time is always right to do what’s right.”

-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

STEM Career Spotlight

Do you like Black History Month and would like to share that knowledge with other people, then you should become a history teacher. History teachers are educators who teach social studies. Content depends on the grade level. It could be U.S. history, state history, or even world history. The yearly wage for a history teacher is about \$50,000.

STEM History

Black History Month is the annual celebration of achievements done by African-Americans and the roles that they played in history as we know it. Half a century after the 13th amendment abolished slavery, this annual event originated during the summer of 1915 in Chicago, Illinois. Since 1976, every president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month. Around the world, countries devote a month to celebrating the accomplishments of Black History. Known today as the Association for the Study of African-American Life and History, this group sponsored a national Black History week in 1926, choosing the second week in February to correspond with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Fredrick Douglas.

STEM Curriculum

Black History with STEM

Discipline- Science and ELA

Activity: Read Hidden Figures that talks about four African-American women who pioneered space engineering and turned NASA into what we know it today. After reading the book, research one of the four characters and create a digital report to share with your classmates, friends and family.

STEM Movies

In the 2017 movie *Hidden Figures*, three brilliant African American women at NASA named Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson serve as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in history: the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit. A stunning achievement that restored the nation's confidence, turned around the Space Race and galvanized the world. This movie shows that no matter who you are, you can do anything you put your mind to. This movie has a big impact on Black History Month. We honor the African Americans who achieved something in this world which we use today as a life lesson.

"You must never be fearful about what you are doing when it is right." -Rosa Parks

#STEMatADM Spotlight

Here at ADM, we have a teacher named Hope Spann. She has been the teacher of the year four times. She was the teacher of the year at ADM 2020-2021, FMS 2012-2013, FMS 2002-2003, and CES 1995-1996. Mrs. Spann has been at ADM for several years. She has worked hard and provided an amazing education to the students that have her. She puts light into them and helps them out when they are in need of help. We thank Mrs. Spann for her passion and dedication to teaching!

Famous STEM Person

Katherine Johnson was an American mathematician famous for her calculations of orbital mechanics as a NASA employee. Katherine Johnson was the first American to succeed in subsequent U.S. crewed spaceflights.

STEM Challenge

Do you want to make a microphone?

Materials: 1 paper towel or toilet paper roll, 1 styrofoam ball, tin foil, 2 sheets of different colored construction paper, scissors, glue, and a hot glue gun.

Step 1: Cut the tube and cover it with colored paper using regular glue.

Step 2: Cover the styrofoam ball with tin foil.

Step 3: Decorate the handle of the microphone by creating shapes/patterns with the extra sheet of paper.

Step 4: Then, glue the ball to the tube using hot glue. Be careful on this step and ask for an adult's help if necessary.

Step 5: Enjoy your DIY microphone and later do some research on the person who helped create the modern microphone and how it was created.

STEM Video

During Black History Month, it is important to take the time to celebrate the accomplishments of the Black Community, as well as recognize and learn about STEM leaders who made impactful innovations in technology, science, engineering and mathematical fields.

<https://youtu.be/ZYmKyeX3xN8>