

General Resources for African-American Studies

Print:

- *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*. Fayetteville, AR: Arkansas Historical Association. A journal, published six times each year, with many articles relating to the African American experience in Arkansas. Particularly valuable are biographical pieces on individual African Americans. M, S
- Arkansas Humanities Council. *Media Catalog*. Little Rock, AR: Arkansas Humanities Resource Center, 1999. The catalog, updated and reissued yearly, contains the holdings of the Resource Center which are available on loan to Arkansas schools. Holdings include extensive resources on the African and African American experience. E,S
- Asante, Molefi Kete. *African American History, A Journey of Liberation*. Maywood, NJ, People's Publishing Group, 1995. The author calls this a book that tells a complete history from inside African American culture. S
- Asante, Molefi Kete and Kariamuw Welsh. *African American Culture*. Maywood, NJ: People's Publishing, 1995. A useful supplement in literature and history courses, this text surveys African American culture--the literature, music, art, theater, and dance. Teacher's activity guide available. S
- Bernstein, Leonard. *African and African American Women of Science*. Maywood, NJ: People's Publishing, 1997. The book explores the work of fifteen women from such diverse areas as medicine, physics, biology, engineering, and other fields. It includes hands-on lab experiments. E, M, S
- Carson, Clayborne, ed. *A Knock at Midnight*. New York: Time Warner, 1998. A collection of eleven of Dr. King's most powerful sermons. S
- Chicago Public Schools. *African American Studies: A Teacher Resource Unit*. Chicago: Chicago Public Schools, 1992. The extensive unit contains sequenced lessons for secondary instructions in the African and African American experience. Contact the Chicago Public Schools for availability. S
- Conroy, Pat. *The Water is Wide*. New York: Bantam, 1994. Written in 1972, a dedicated teacher recounts his year on Yamacraw Island off the coast of South Carolina working with young African-American children to help them become aware of the world around them and develop a sense of self-respect. S
- Davidson, Basil. *Africa in History: Themes and Outlines*. New York: Scribner, 1995. This landmark work presents the inner growth of Africa and its worldwide significance. The revised edition reflects the recent changes in South Africa. S

- Davis, Arthur, Saunders J. Redding, and Joyce Ann Joyce. *The New Cavalcade: African American Writing from 1760 to the Present*. Volume I. Washington, D.C.: Howard University Press, 1991. First published in 1971, the selections are arranged chronologically and include short stories, poems, and selections from longer works. S
- Davis, Arthur, Saunders J. Redding, and Joyce Ann Joyce. *The New Cavalcade: African American Writing from 1760 to the Present*. Volume II. Washington, D.C.: Howard University Press, 1991. First published in 1971 and recently updated, the selections are arranged chronologically and include short stories, poems, and selections from longer works. M, S
- Dougan, Michael B., Tom W. Dillard, and Timothy G. Nutt. *Arkansas History: An Annotated Bibliography*. Westport, CN: Greenwood Press, 1995. A comprehensive reference work to writings on Arkansas history with a section devoted to African Americans in Arkansas. S
- DuBois, W.E.B and Eric J. Sundquist, ed. *The Oxford W.E.B. DuBois Reader*. This volume encompasses the whole of DuBois's writing career from the 1890s through the early 1960s. M,S
- _____. *The Souls of Black Folk*. New York: Bantam, 1989. Published at the turn of the century, this book was a call to action by Du Bois after decades of social injustice following the end of the Civil War. Gaining the right to vote, civic equality and access to education based on ability were key, he insisted, to breaking the color barrier. S
- ERIC. *Lessons from Africa: A Supplement to Middle School Courses*. Bloomington, IN: ERICness, 1989. Modern African life is examined through cooperative activities, emphasizing the commonalities between African and American ways of life. M
- Estell, Kenneth. *African America: Portrait of a People*. New York: Invisible Ink Press, 1993. The volume offers a comprehensive biographical, pictorial, and narrative overview of the African American experience, from 1600 to the present, illuminating black achievement in such areas as politics, literature, business, science, sports, and the performing arts. S
- Franklin, John Hope. *From Slavery to Freedom: A History of African Americans*. New York: Knopf, 1994. An updated edition of the preeminent history of African Americans has been revised to include expanded coverage of Africa, the situation of African Americans in the United States. S
- Gates, Henry Louis, Jr. et al. *The African American Experience*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Globe, 1992. The text and accompanying Teacher's Manual provide materials for an overview of African and African-American history. S
- Giddings, Paula. *When and Where I Enter: The Impact of Black Women on Race and Sex in America*. New York: William Morrow, 1989. In her landmark appraisal of black women's unsung contributions to the struggles for racial and sexual equality, Giddings draws on speeches, diaries, and letters of influential black women. S
- Gill, Laverne McCain. *African American Women in Congress: Forming and Transforming History*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1997. This book preserves the history of the struggles and accomplishments of fifteen courageous women, introducing readers to issues of vital importance to the black community. S

- Gordon, Ann D., Bettye Collier-Thomas, John H. Bracey, Joyce A. Berkman, eds., and Arlene Voski Avakian, contributor. *African American Women and the Vote*. Northampton, MA: University of Massachusetts Press, 1997. The contributors focus on specific examples of women pursuing a dual ambition: to gain full civil and political rights and to improve the social conditions of African Americans. S
- Hamilton, Virginia. *The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales*. Illus. Leo Dillon and Diane Dillon. New York: Knopf, 1993. Winner of the 1998 Coretta Scott King Award, the theme of freedom runs throughout the twenty-four stories in this collection. E
- _____. *Her Stories: African American Folktales, Fairy Tales, and True Tales*. New York: Scholastic, 1995. Illus. Leo Dillon and Diane Dillon. Traditional and true African-American stories about women have been brought together, retold, and annotated by Virginia Hamilton in this illustrated collection. E
- Jones, Bessie and Bess Lomax Hawes. *Step It Down*. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1987. This contains African American heritage games, songs and stories. E
- Kelley, Robin D.G. and Earl Lewis. *The Young Oxford History of African Americans*. 11 volumes. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997. The collection tells the story of African Americans from the 15th through the 20th century. It uses many primary sources and rare photographs. M,S
- King, Coretta Scott, ed. *Black Americans of Achievement*. 49 hardback volumes. New York: Chelsea House, 1992. The volumes explore the lives of a variety of African Americans from Langston Hughes to Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. E, M
- Levine, Michael. *African American and Civil Rights from 1619 to the Present*. New York: Oryx, 1996. A readable account of African Americans' struggle for racial equality from the colonial era to the present, analyzing important issues such as slavery, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the civil rights movement. S
- Meltzer, Milton, ed. *The Black Americans: A History in Their Own Words 1619-1983*. New York: HarperTrophy, 1987. A history of African Americans in the United States, as told through letters, speeches, articles, eyewitness accounts, and other documents. S
- Reynolds, Edward. *Focus on Africa*. Lexington, MA: D.C. Heath, 1994. This is one volume in a series entitled *Perspectives on the Past* and is helpful in structuring lesson plans. It provides a comprehensive study of early Africa and continues to the present day. S
- Rochester City School District. *In Our Own Image: An African American History*. New York: People's Publishing, 1998. Using the authentic voices of Africans and African Americans, this volume covers everything from African Origins to contemporary issues facing African Americans. M

- Smith, Jessie Carney, ed. and Camille O. Cosby. *Powerful Black Women*. New York: Visible Ink Press, 1996. The lives and accomplishments of 70 influential African-American women are celebrated through compelling stories which offer not only a fascinating glimpse into history and current events, but also serve as a source of inspiration for the reader. S
- Stanford, Barbara, ed. *Building Community West African Style*. Little Rock: Arkansas International Center, 1992. The unit of lessons provides teachers and student with basic concepts and a conceptual framework for learning more about West Africa. S
- Terkel, Studs. *Race: How Blacks and Whites Think and Feel About the American Obsession*. New York: Anchor, 1993. Terkel examines the leading issue in American life, presenting the feelings of nearly one hundred Americans on issues related to the subject. M, S
- Time Life Editors. *African Americans: Voices of Triumph*. 3 volumes. Richmond, VA: Time Life Books, 1995. The volumes, *Creative Fire*, *Perseverance*, and *Leadership*, adopt a thematic approach to the study of the African and African American experience. A Teacher's Guide accompanies each volume. E, M, S
- Watson, Dr. Clifford. *Ten Great African American Men of Science*. New York: People's Publishing, 1995. The volume contains biographies of ten scientists along with experiments and tests illustrating the achievements of Banneker, Carver, Morgan, and others. E, M, S
- Westridge Young Writers Workshop. *Kids Explore America's African-American Heritage*. New York: John Muir Publications, 1993. This student-written volume explores in a variety of ways the history and contributions of African Americans. E
- Valade, Roger M., III and Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. *The Essential Black Literature Guide*. New York: Visible Ink Press, 1996. This volume is a magnificent compendium of over 200 years of black literature. With its international scope and unparalleled breadth of coverage, significant works of all time periods and genres are represented. E, M, S

Games and Posters:

- *African American Artists*. 8 posters with guide. New York: Knowledge Unlimited, 1993. This set highlights a century of African-American art. Learning activities are included in the fifteen-page guide. E,S
- *African American in Science, Mathematics, Medicine and Invention*. Task cards, puzzles, posters, video script. New York: People's Publishing Group, 1993. A variety of activities leads students to explore the contributions of African Americans from the Haya people of Tanzania to Mae Jemison. E, M, S

- *African Americans: Their Impact on U.S. History*. Book with reproducible pages. New York: Good Apple, 1992. The material explores the role of African Americans during ten distinct eras in U.S. history. M
- *African Art Portfolio*. 24 prints. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian, nd. The prints representing famous African artists are accompanied by an illustrated booklet with a variety of information related to the prints. E,S
- *All Aboard for Black History*. Game kits. New York: Media Materials, 1993. The five game-centered kits contain activities related to discovering the contributions of African Americans. E
- *Black Artists in America*. 15 art prints with guide. New York: Shorewood, nd. The collection of prints represents the work of artists from the mid-19th century to the modern age. The guide includes background and teaching ideas. E,S
- *Black History and the Newspaper*. Activity book. New York: C.J. Hatcher, 1991. The 64 newspaper-based activities allow students to research and analyze material in learning about the accomplishments of African Americans.
- *Black History Poster Series*. 10 posters. New York: Pomegranate, 1994. Highlighted are the contributions of a wide range of African Americans to science, sports, politics, and arts. E,M,S
- *Black Military Units: Group Photographs*. 4 posters. New York: Knowledge Unlimited, 1998. Posters are accompanied by explanation of when and where members of each unit served and the accomplishments. M,S
- *Outstanding Contemporary African Americans*. 5 posters. New York: Knowledge Unlimited, 1993. Includes Arthur Ashe, Jesse Jackson, Barbara Jordan, Malcolm X, Toni Morrison. M,S
- *The Struggle for Civil Rights*. 5 posters. New York: Knowledge Unlimited, 1994. Posters present a rich panorama of the civil rights movement. Each focuses on a different period. Text also supplies an overview of the era. E,M,S
- *What is African Art?* Chart with guide. New York: Pictorial Charts Educational Trust/Museum of Mankind, 1996. The colorful images on this chart illustrate the diversity of African art. Background is contained in the guide. M,S
- *Women of Hope: African American Who Made a Difference*. 12 posters. Featured are Fannie Lou Hammer, Alice Walker, Ida B. Wells, Mae Jemison, etc. Accompanied by a 48 page booklet. M,S

Media:

- *A Knock at Midnight*. Audio books with six cassettes. Carson, Clayborne, ed. New York: Time Warner, 1998. Eight hours of original recordings of Dr. King's greatest sermons. M,S

- *A Profile of Four Black Women: Look Upon Them and Be Renewed*. 40 minute video. Little Rock: Arkansas Humanities Resource Center, 1981. Four notable black women are profiled: Phillis Wheatley, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, and Rosa Parks. E,S
- *African American Life*. 25 minute video. Bala Cynwyd, PA: Schlessinger Video, 1996. Learn about America's history as the video uses graphics, animations, and live action portrayals to tell about historic figures and stories. E
- *The African American Experience*. CD-Rom. Woodbridge, CT: Primary Source Media, 1995. The disc allows students to explore the lives of diverse peoples who shaped our nation's history through documents, timelines, narratives, maps, and personal narrations. E,S
- *African Art and Culture*. 52 minute video and guide. New York: Clearvue, nd. This three-part program surveys African art and its close relationship to religious beliefs and nature. E,S
- *The Africans*. Nine videos. 60 minutes each video. Little Rock: Arkansas Humanities Resource Center, 1985. This is a view of Africa from the inside looking out and analyzing its triple legacy of indigenous roots, Islam contributions, and Western influences. E,M,S
- *Bill Cosby in Aesop's Fables*. 30 minute video. Irving, CA: Karl Lorimar Home Video, 1986. Cosby journeys through an animated forest with his two young human friends in the famous fable, "The Tortoise and the Hare." E
- *Black Americans of Achievement*. 12 30 minute videos. New York: Library Video, 1994. The collection includes extensive footage of African American greats such as George Washington Carver, Thurgood Marshall, Harriet Tubman, James Baldwin, and others. Accompanying set of paperback books available. M,S
- *The Black Press: Soldiers without Swords*. 90 minute video. Chicago: Chicago Production Center at WTTW, 1998. This is an engaging historical account that tells the story of the pioneering men and women of the Black press who gave voice to Black America. Go to www.pbs.org/blackpress/ for more information.
- *Encarta Africana*. CD-Rom. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Kwame Anthony Appiah, eds. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Square Netcasting, 1999. The two editors, colleagues at Harvard University, teamed with Microsoft to launch a comprehensive CD-Rom containing thousands of documents related to African and African American history. The web site, www.africana.com, offers additional information. E,M,S
- *Ethnic Notions*. Video. 56 minutes. Little Rock: Arkansas Humanities Council, 1987. An award-winning documentary traces the evolution of the deeply rooted stereotypes which have fueled antiblack prejudice. S
- *Good Mornin' Blues*. 60 minute video. Little Rock: Arkansas Humanities Council, 1979. B. B. King narrates this documentary about blues music from its earliest origins until World War II.

- *Great Black Innovators*. 32 minute video. New York: Knowledge Unlimited, 1995. The fascinating stories of some of the most important innovators, including Benjamin Banneker, Madame C.J. Walker, Granville Woods, and others. Includes teacher's guide, activity sheets, script, and bibliography. Accompanying posters available. M,S
- *I'll Make Me a World*. Six-hour video series. Alexandria, VA: Public Broadcasting System, 1998. The video series showcases the depth and breadth of black creative achievement in the 20th century. Go to www.pbs.org for more information. M,S
- *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. 90 minute video. Little Rock: Arkansas Humanities Council, 1978. The story of Maya Angelou's young years reflects her life in Stamps, Arkansas and in St. Louis. This is based on her autobiography by the same name. S
- *The Jazz Time Tale*. 29 minute video. Van Nuys, CA: Family Home Entertainment, 1993. Young Lucinda is on her way home from the market and stops to hear her neighbor, Thomas "Fats" Waller, play the piano. E,M
- *Kwanzaa Folktales*. Audiocassette. New York: Time Warner Audiobooks, 1994. This is a collection of original folktales illustrating each of the seven principles which Kwanzaa honors. E
- *Let's Get the Rhythm of the Band: A Child's Introduction to Music from African-American Culture with Story and Song*. Book and cassette. Mattox Publishing, nd. The history of Black music from talking drums of Africa to Rap.
- *Maya Angelou: Creativity with Bill Moyers*. 60 minute video. Little Rock: Arkansas Humanities Resource Center, 1981. Moyers accompanies Angelou on her return to Stamps where they discuss her early years and its effect on her poetry. S
- *Maya Angelou: Writers in Conversation*. 35 minute video. Little Rock: Arkansas Humanities Resource Center, 1989. Angelou reads from her book of poetry, *Singin' and Swingin'*. S
- *The Mighty Pawns*. 58 minute video. Chicago, IL: Publisher Media Video, 1987. This is a true drama about courage and determination born in an inner city school. S
- *Music Masters and Rhythm Kings*. 57 minute video. Little Rock: Arkansas Humanities Resource Center, 1993. A celebration of the rich heritage of southern traditional music and the people who created it forms this documentary. M,S
- *Reflections in Black History*. 30 cassette tapes. Oxon Hill, MD: Reflections in Black History, 1998. Margaret Weston Kemp has gathered autobiographical sketches on 260 African Americans from across decades. A Teacher's Guide accompanies packet. E,M
- *Roots of Gospel: Parts I and II*. 45 minute video. Santa Monica, CA: Praised Home Video, 1989. The gospel music is performed in scenic and biblical locations all across the Holy Land. Songs reflect the beginning of gospel from churches in the South and its spread across America. M,S
- *Saturday Night, Sunday Morning*. 70 minute video. San Francisco, CA: California Newsreel, 1992. The roots of blues and gospel are explored. B.B. King and Rufus Thomas tour Beale Street. M,S

- *The Shadow of Hate*. 60 minute video. Montgomery, AL: Teaching Tolerance, nd. The video contains historical footage of incidents of hate crimes and discrimination. To receive a free teaching kit, the principal should send a request on school letterhead to Teaching Tolerance, 400 Washington Ave., Montgomery, AL 36104.
- *That Rhythm, Those Blues*. 58 minute video. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Library, 1990. A survey of rhythm and blues music shows its growth in the 1940's and 1950's. M,S
- *Tryin' to Get Home: A History of African American Song*. 55 minute video. Berkeley, CA: Heebie Jeebie Music, 1993. This is a valuable program for courses in music and American history. M,S
- *UAPB Currents: H. J. Lewis*. 29 minute video. Little Rock: Arkansas Humanities Resource Center, 1992. Henry Jackson Lewis, America's first black political cartoonist, is featured. E,M,S
- Wright, Mary. *African American Voices of Triumph: People on the Move*. Multimedia kit. New York: Time Life Education, 1998. Student newspapers, overhead project cards, and videos focus on African American perseverance through the middle passage, flights to freedom, movement west as pioneers, and migration to the north in the 20th century. E
- Wright, Mary. *People with a Dream*. Multimedia kit. New York: Time Life Education, 1998. Student newspapers, overhead transparencies, project cards, and video (37 min.) explore the cultural Harlem Renaissance of the 1920's, investigate difficulties at home and abroad during the Great Depression, WWII, and the Civil Rights era. E