

February is Black History Month

February was designated Black History Month by Carter G. Woodson in 1926. He was the son of former slaves and dedicated his life to ensuring that black history was reported accurately.

Facts to celebrate Black History Month

- George Washington Carver invented hundreds of uses for peanuts, including peanut butter.
- Dr. Shirley Jackson's work in telecommunications helped make Call Waiting and Caller ID possible.
- Bessie Coleman was the first African American and woman to be licensed as an international pilot in 1921.
- Vonetta Flowers was the first African American to win a gold medal at a Winter Olympics; she won in the women's bobsled event in 2002.
- The youngest person awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, Martin Luther King, Jr. was only 35.
- Tony Dungy, the former coach of the Indianapolis Colts, became the first African American coach to win the Super Bowl in 2007.

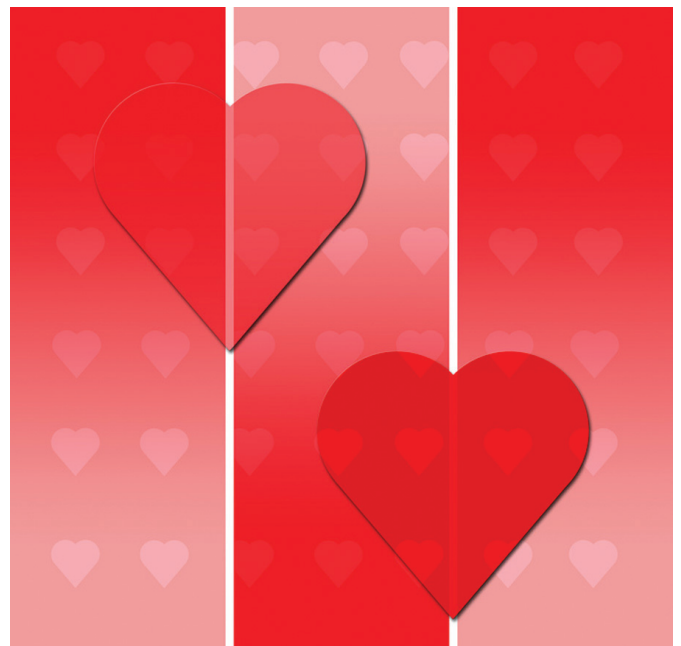
Heart Collage

Materials and Preparations:

- Assorted colors of construction paper (cut out different sizes and colors of hearts ahead of time)
- Scissors and glue

Learning Experiences:

- Invite interested children to create a heart collage using the different sizes and colors of hearts.
- Encourage children to share some things that they love. If children prefer, print their words on the front or back of the paper exactly how they dictated them to you.
- If children are interested, they may wish to share their collage and things they love with others.



Scrapbook Story

(Taken from [Curriculum for Pre-K Let's Pretend](#))

Materials and Preparations:

- Children's photographs from home of their earlier years (invite children to bring in copies of photographs of themselves and their families from earlier years)
- Assorted scrapbook paper, crayons, and markers
- Glue sticks, children's scissors, assorted stickers

Learning Experiences:

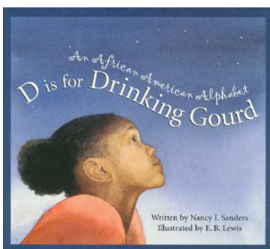
- Children can use their photographs to create a scrapbook that tells about themselves and their families and how they have changed from the time they were born. Provide them with assorted scrapbook paper to choose from, along with glue sticks and scissors. What pictures and decorations can they create on the pages that help tell even more details than the photographs? Children may want you to write words they use to describe what is happening in each photograph.
- Children can design a cover for their scrapbook and give it a title. Can they create a cover design that gives clues to what the scrapbook is about?
- Children can share their scrapbooks and tell their stories with their classmates. Display where everyone can enjoy them!

Traveling Games

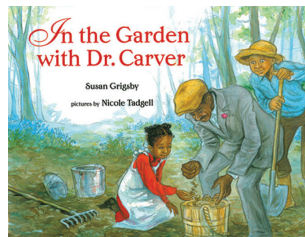
(Taken from [Let's Get Fit!](#))

- Have children explore different kinds of steps – big and little, light and heavy, tired and excited, happy and sad, and so forth. You may also want to encourage them to try walking forwards, backwards, and sideways.
- Invite children to tiptoe and stomp around the room. You may want to signal the movements with a single clap for tiptoeing and two loud stomps for stomping.
- Encourage children to move around the room representing various forms of transportation. Children may fly like a plane, row a boat, ride a bike, choo choo down the track, and more.

Books to Share



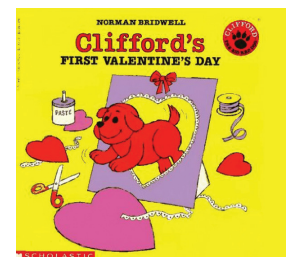
D is for Drinking Gourd: An African American Alphabet by Nancy I. Sanders



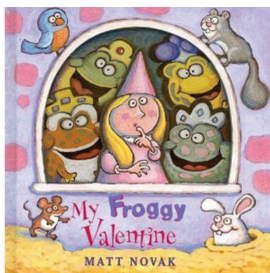
In the Garden with Dr. Carver by Susan Grigsby



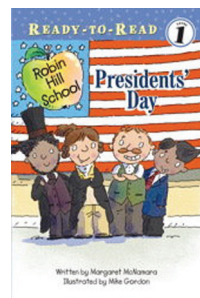
Bringing in the New Year by Grace Lin



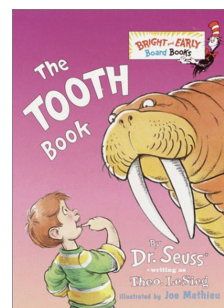
Clifford's First Valentine's Day by Norman Bridwell



My Froggy Valentine by Matt Novak



President's Day by Margaret McNamara



The Tooth Book by Dr. Seuss



Just Going to the Dentist by Mercer Mayer