

February is Black History Month, and the Equity Team would like to share some resources that may be helpful to you as you either navigate through conversations with your students or you plan an activity to further the discussion. In addition, the Equity Team is trying to bring light to microaggressions. The district newsletter has an article written by senior Elizabeth Oroxom on the topic, and you will find some additional resources in information about microaggressions below. We hope that these resources will be helpful.

### **Links for information on microaggressions:**

[Nicole Cardoza's Anti-Racism Daily Newsletter on Harm of Microaggression](#) (links are very helpful)

### **Information on talking to elementary students about microaggressions:**

[Ouch Moments: Strategies to Help Your Child Understand Microaggressions](#)

[Article from Teaching Tolerance](#)

[Talking with young children](#)

I have some of the books referenced. Please let me ([mtillsmith@kasd.org](mailto:mtillsmith@kasd.org)) know if you would like to borrow one:

*Don't Touch My Hair* by Sharee Miller

*The Name Jar* by Yangsook Choi

*Ouch Moments! When Words Are Used in Hurtful Ways* by Michale Genhart

### **Links for Black History Month**

(as shared by: Christina Foehl, Ed.D., Assistant Director Office of Professional Development and Curriculum, Berks County Intermediate Unit.)

February is Black History Month. While it is recommended that Black history be included as part of our study of history on a daily basis, this month is a wonderful opportunity to highlight the contributions made by Black individuals and to fill gaps that have not been addressed by curriculum. Below are some resources that may be helpful.

### **Learning for Justice (Formerly Teaching Tolerance) Resources**

- [Why We Need Black History Month](#) - Analyzing and celebrating Black history helps students think critically about present-day social issues.
- [Teaching the Complete History](#) - Go beyond trauma and struggle to examine the liberation, civic engagement, creativity and intersecting identities of Black people during Black History Month.

- [Teaching Beyond Slavery](#) - Avoid minimizing black history; include the full human experience beyond enslavement.

### **Newsela Resources**

- Text Set: [28 Days of Black History: Then & Now](#)
- Choice Board: [Black History Month](#)
- Collection: [Celebrating Black America](#) (Newsela Social Studies)
- Collection: [Celebrating Black Voices](#) (Newsela ELA)
- Collection: Our History Matters (SEL [Middle School](#) & [High School](#))
- Lessons: [Resistance and Liberation](#)
- Blog: [Black History is Our History](#)

### **Amanda Gorman, the National Youth Poet Laureate, Lesson Plans**

- [Lesson of the Day: Amanda Gorman and 'The Hill We Climb' - The New York Times \(nytimes.com\)](#)
- [Lesson Plan: Discuss 22-year-old Amanda Gorman's inaugural poem "The Hill We Climb" | Lesson Plan | PBS NewsHour Extra](#)