



February is Black History Month

In February, many Canadians actively participate in events celebrating Black History Month. This annual observance serves as an opportunity for us to engage in open dialogue and foster a deeper understanding of the diverse stories within Black communities. This year's focus is "**Black Excellence: A Heritage to Celebrate; a Future to Build**", which reaffirms our commitment to honouring the achievements of Black individuals, both past and present.

In our work with children, we all have an opportunity to share these narratives contributing to a more inclusive learning environment. We invite you to participate in activities that celebrate and amplify the voices of Black communities, fostering a spirit of unity and understanding within your early learning programs, and beyond not only during the month of February, but all year around.

Local Activities

Presented by Niagara Parks: Niagara Region holds some of Canada's most compelling tales of excellence, freedom, and bravery. Trace the Underground Railroad's legacy, exploring significant sites such as Harriet Tubman's crossing point and landing spots for freedom seekers. Immerse yourself in history with over 20 plaques and displays as you drive, walk, or cycle the 56-km Niagara River Recreation Trail. These resources offer an impactful experience, bringing to life pivotal moments in Canadian history in the Niagara region. Visit the Waystation to Freedom - Inside the Old Fort Erie Welcome Centre, the Waystation to Freedom display tells the story of Fort Erie as a transit point for the Underground Railway. [Click here](#)

Twilight Jazz & Blues Series: Celebrating Black History Month

- Thompson Egbo-Egbo Trio **February 5:** [click here](#)
- Carlos Morgan **February 15:** [click here](#)
- Harrison Kennedy **February 25:** [click here](#)

Black History Month Vendor Showcase **February 13** – Brock University: [click here](#)



ECCDC Resources

Resources Available for Ordering Through ECCDC's Estore

- Supporting Diversity & Inclusion: [click here](#)



Resources Available for Borrowing at ECCDC

- Anti-Racism Literature for Young Children: [click here to email ECCDC for availability](#)





Websites of Interest

International Day for Education - January 24

- Government of Canada Black History Month Resources: [click here](#)
- National Geographic Kids Black History Month Resources: [click here](#)
- Niagara Parks Black History Month Resources: [click here](#)
- Brock University Black History Month Resources: [click here](#)

We invite you to challenge yourself to explore and share lesser-known stories of resilience, achievement, and cultural richness. Consider incorporating diverse voices, literature, and historical figures, fostering a more comprehensive understanding of the contributions made by Black individuals throughout history. By taking on this challenge, we contribute to creating learning spaces that reflect the richness of human experiences and cultivates empathy, understanding, and respect among children, families, and colleagues.