ALL-M-ONE

Black History Elementary Teacher Instructions and Reproducible Activity

Students will create a brief profile of a famous African American by placing general information (famous African American's name, year of birth, major accomplishment, and two positive character traits of this person) on a footprint. Students will present their biographical footprints to the class and then display them on the bulletin board.

NOTE TO TEACHER: This bulletin board is designed to match a common character trait with a historical figure and a contemporary figure. Use the examples below to help your students understand the concept of character traits:

Frederick Douglass and Martin Luther King, Jr.: DETERMINED Harriet Tubman and Rosa Parks: COURAGEOUS Jesse Owens and Tiger Woods: HARD-WORKING George Washington Carver and Mae Jemison: INVENTIVE Booker T. Washington and Condoleezza Rice: STUDIOUS Sojourner Truth and Oprah Winfrey: COMPASSIONATE

Supplies needed: notes, textbooks, any available reference materials, pens/pencils, scissors, crayons and/or colored pencils

- 1. Discuss the bulletin board—including the famous African Americans depicted and the character traits that are featured. Use this as a springboard to discuss other famous African Americans and what character traits they possessed.
- 2. Distribute the biographical footprint worksheets and instruct students to write their names on the back of the footprints.
- 3. Provide each student with the name of a famous African American to depict on a biographical footprint.
- 4. Explain to the students that they are to fill in the information on the footprint as it pertains to their famous person. Be sure to let the students know that they will be presenting their footprints and information to the class, and they must be prepared to explain how the character traits they list on their footprints apply to their famous person. For example, if a student's famous person is Martin Luther King, Jr., the student may list leadership as a positive character trait Dr. King possessed. When the student presents the biographical footprint, he/she must explain how Dr. King demonstrated the character trait of leadership.
- 5. Instruct students to write neatly and to be concise; the major accomplishment should be explained in no more than one short sentence. They may color and decorate their footprints and cut them out once the information is completed.
- 6. Once students have completed their biographical footprints, have them take turns presenting their footprints and then display them on the bulletin board.



