



**Maryland  
Council on  
Economic  
Education**

**BASED AT TOWSON UNIVERSITY**



**EDUCATOR RESOURCES: BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

*From the Maryland Council on Economic Education*



## RESOURCES FOR – ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

BOOK SUGGESTION	GET THE BOOK	GET THE LESSON PLAN
<p><b><u><i>A Chair for My Mother</i></u></b> by Vera B. Williams</p> <p>A little girl and her family save money to buy a chair after their furniture is destroyed in a fire. Students learn that characters in the book are human resources who save part of the income they earn. Students identify other human resources, discuss how their work allows them to earn income, and name strategies that will help them reach a savings goal.</p> <p><b>Grades PK-3</b></p>	<p><b>Read Aloud:</b> <a href="#"><u><i>A Chair For My Mother - READ ALOUD - YouTube</i></u></a></p> <p><b>Online Book:</b> <a href="#"><u><i>A Chair For My Mother: Williams, Vera B : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive</i></u></a></p>	<p><a href="#"><u><i>A Chair for My Mother Lesson for Grades 1-3   Education   St. Louis Fed (stlouisfed.org)</i></u></a></p>
<p><b><u><i>Candy Shop</i></u></b> by Jan Wahl</p> <p>When an act of bigotry scars the sidewalk in front of the candy shop and frightens the owner, Daniel knows that he must do something to fight back. Candy Shop is a tender story of a young boy's courage in the face of prejudice.</p> <p><b>Grades PK-3</b></p>	<p><b>Read Aloud:</b> <a href="#"><u><i>Candy Shop: Wahl, Jan : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive</i></u></a></p>	<p><a href="#"><u><i>Candy-Shop-FINAL.pdf (econed.org)</i></u></a></p>
<p><b><u><i>The Real McCoy: The Life of an African-American Inventor</i></u></b> by Wendy Towle</p> <p>From where did the expression “the real McCoy” come? African-American inventor Elijah McCoy’s successful design of an automatic oil cup inspired the popular phrase. This book introduces children to the life of Elijah McCoy and the legacy of technological contributions that he left behind. <b>Grades 3-5</b></p>	<p><b>Read Aloud:</b> <a href="#"><u><i>Ms. Douglas reads "The Real McCoy: The Life of an African-American Inventor" by Wendy Towle - YouTube</i></u></a></p> <p><b>Online Book:</b> <a href="#"><u><i>The real McCoy : Wendy Towle : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive</i></u></a></p>	<p><a href="#"><u><i>The Real McCoy (econed.org)</i></u></a></p>



<p><b><i>Vision of Beauty: The Story of Sarah Breedlove Walker</i> by Kathryn Lasky</b></p> <p>This book tells the inspiring story of Sarah Breedlove Walker’s (better known as Madam C.J. Walker, or Madame C.J. Walker) rise from poverty in Delta, Louisiana, to her successful career as an entrepreneur and philanthropist. <b>Grades 3-5</b></p>	<p><b>Online Book:</b> <u><i>Vision of Beauty: The Story of Sarah Breedlove Walker</i> : Lasky, Kathryn : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive</u></p>	<p><u><i>Vision-of-BeautyFINAL-CC1.pdf</i> (econed.org)</u></p>
<p><b><i>Dream Builder: The Story of Architect Philip Freelon</i> by Kelly Starling Lyons</b></p> <p>Students will learn about the life of architect Philip Freelon and the impact of his choices on himself, his community, and the nation. They will be challenged to conduct research on Philip Freelon and share their findings in a presentation. All the while, students will learn how Philip Freelon’s vision to share and preserve stories of our past led him to the role of Architect of Record for the National Museum of African American History and Culture. <b>Grades 3-5</b></p>	<p><b>Read Aloud:</b> <u>B&amp;B Reads: Ms. Kara reading “Dream Builder” by Kelly Starling Lyons - YouTube</u></p>	<p><u><i>Dream Builder: The Story of Architect Philip Freelon Lesson Plan - Google Docs</i></u></p>
<p><b><i>The Fair Housing Five and the Haunted House</i> by Louisiana Fair Housing Action Center</b></p> <p>Samaria and her friends like everything about their clubhouse except the haunted house across the street. But when Samaria and her mother need to find a place to live, they realize they are dealing with a much bigger problem than ghosts or monsters. “The Fair Housing Five and the Haunted House” is an illustrated children’s book that tells the story of five children who take action in response to a landlord who is discriminating in their neighborhood. <b>Grades 3-5</b></p>	<p><b>Read Aloud:</b> <u>State Representative Rachel Hood was live.   By State Representative Rachel Hood   Facebook</u></p>	<p><u>Classroom Activities FHCWM.org</u></p>



## RESOURCES FOR – MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

BOOK SUGGESTION	GET THE BOOK	GET THE LESSON PLAN
<p><b><i>Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race</i> by Margot Lee Shetterly</b></p> <p>During the time of Jim Crow laws, Dorothy Vaughan, Katherine Johnson, Mary Jackson, and Christine Darden were able to use their talents to advance science and secure America’s legacy in the Space Race. <b>Grades 6-8</b></p>	<p><b>Read Aloud:</b> <u><a href="#">Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race</a></u> <u><a href="#">Read Aloud - YouTube</a></u></p>	<p><u><a href="#">Hidden Figures Lesson Plan</a></u></p>
<p><b><i>Two Tickets to Freedom: The True Story of Ellen and William Craft, Fugitive Slaves</i> by Florence B. Freedman</b></p> <p>The true story of fugitive slaves Ellen and William Craft, is based largely on William Craft’s narrative, <i>Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom</i>. The story begins on a winter morning in 1848 when Ellen Craft, a light-skinned young slave, disguises herself in men’s clothing and walks into a train station in Macon, Georgia, and purchases two tickets; one ticket was for herself and the other for her husband. Ellen posed as a white Southern planter, and her husband, William, as her slave. Thus began their dangerous journey that took them to England and eventually back to Georgia. <b>Grades 6-8</b></p>	<p><b>Online Book:</b> <u><a href="#">Two Tickets to Freedom: The True Story of Ellen and William Craft, Fugitive Slaves</a></u> <u><a href="#">Freedman, Florence B. (Florence Bernstein) Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming: Internet Archive</a></u></p>	<p><u><a href="#">Two Tickets to Freedom (econed.org)</a></u></p>



<p><b><i>Sojourner Truth: Ain't I a Woman?</i> by Patricia C. and Frederick McKissack</b></p> <p>Students read the story of Sojourner Truth and discuss events that took place during her lifetime. Among these were the abolition of slavery and the effects of policies pertaining to abolition. <b>Grades 6-8</b></p>	<p><b>Online Book:</b> <b><i>Sojourner Truth: Ain't I a Woman?</i> McKissack, Pat, 1944-2017 : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive</b></p>	<p><b><i>Sojourner Truth: Ain't I a Woman? Lesson Plan</i> (stlouisfed.org)</b></p>
<p><b><i>Scraps of Time, 1960: Abby Takes a Stand</i>, by Patricia C. McKissack</b></p> <p>Students read about incidences of racial discrimination and how those incidences were met with methods of protests. They engage in an activity that matches programs for low-income people with the type of economic inequity the program addresses and observe an activity simulating tax payments and transfers. <b>Grades 6-8</b></p>	<p><b>Read Aloud:</b> <b><i>Scraps of Time 1960-Abbey Takes a Stand Ch 1 - YouTube</i></b></p>	<p><b><i>Scraps of Time 1960: Abby Takes a Stand</i> (stlouisfed.org)</b></p>
<p><b><i>Forty Acres and Maybe a Mule</i> by Harriette Robinet</b></p> <p>Pascal, a 12-year-old orphaned former slave, travels with his brother and others from South Carolina to Georgia in search of the “Forty Acres and Mule” that was promised by General Sherman. <b>Grades 6-8</b></p>	<p><b>Online Book:</b> <b><i>Forty Acres and Maybe a Mule: Robinet, Harriette : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive</i></b></p>	<p><b><i>Forty Acres and Maybe a Mule</i> (econed.org)</b></p>



## RESOURCES FOR – HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

### The Economics of the Civil Rights Movement: An Historical Investigation

Students use primary and secondary sources to determine the significance of economic protests to the success of the Civil Rights Movement.

- [The Economics of the Civil Rights Movement: \(econed.org\)](http://econed.org)

### Cost and Benefits of Segregation: An Historical Investigation

Students use primary and secondary sources to determine what information should be contained in a picture book about segregation in the United States that will be shared with 5th Graders.

- [Spirituals \(econed.org\)](http://econed.org)

### How Does Where You Live Influence How You Live?

Students learn about the practice of redlining and its impact of creating wealth inequality. The lesson plan contains primary and secondary sources along with data analysis that will help students understand the decision-making and impact of this process. And yes....Baltimore is an example of redlining!

- [Redlining Lesson Plan: Fillable newyorkfed.org](http://newyorkfed.org)
- [The Baltimore “Redlining” Map: Ranking Neighborhoods The Sheridan Libraries & University Museums Blog \(jhu.edu\)](http://jhu.edu)

### Economics and the Great Migration

Students can explore the economic impact of the Great Migration using three lessons. The first lesson has students examining the art of Jacob Lawrence to better understand the economics of the Great Migration. The second lesson focuses on the impact of the Harlem Renaissance. The third lesson focuses on the discriminatory process of Redlining.

- [Economics and the Great Migration Curriculum St. Louis Fed \(stlouisfed.org\)](http://stlouisfed.org)

### Let’s Put Our Money Together: The Founding of America’s First Black Banks

The history of America’s earliest African American banks is something that is not widely known. These banks served as an important source of credit while also offering innumerable other benefits to the consumers and communities that they served. The latest volume of the Kansas City Fed’s historical book series details the stories and accomplishments of these bankers.

- [Let Us Put Our Money Together: The Founding of America’s First Black Banks Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City \(kansascityfed.org\)](http://kansascityfed.org)

### You Decide: Washington or Du Bois - Who Had a Better Vision?

Many of you know the “economic battle” between these two influential and great Black leaders. Do your students?

- [You Decide: Washington or Du Bois – Who Had a Better Vision? Interactive Lesson, PBS LearningMedia](http://pbslearningmedia.org)

### The Economics of Jim Crow

In this lesson, students learn how the laws and practices of Jim Crow crippled many African Americans and led to economic destabilization. Students examine the economics of Jim Crow, how Jim Crow laws sustained Black economic dependency, and why the rise of a Black middle class challenged white supremacy. As a culminating activity, students devise an “Economic Bill of Rights” for African Americans in three eras: 1865, 1895, and 1940.

- [The Economics of Jim Crow, PBS LearningMedia](http://pbslearningmedia.org)