

# February Newsletter

February 2023

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Believe it or not, Black History Month hasn't been around for so long. Officially recognized by American presidents in the 1970's, some communities and individuals had been celebrating African American contributions to our society and the world as early as the 1920's, but because much of the 20th century was mired in racial prejudice and the Civil Rights Movement, country-wide recognition didn't happen until fairly recently.

Most of us are already aware that the purpose of Black History Month is to celebrate the accomplishments and contributions African Americans have made for our society. However, in 2020, some people might be tempted to view the many ways in which our country has changed over the years, and to deem Black History Month as unneeded or irrelevant to our modern culture. While America has made huge strides over the years and decades, our work as a country is far from complete, and history should never be forgotten. (Kids Academy, 2021)

## How to Celebrate Black History Month at Home

### **Check out the local children's museum**

If you live near a large city, chances are it has a children's museum. If that's the case, and even if you have already visited the museum with your children before, check out the exhibits and programming it has available for the month of February. Many children's museums offer themed days or special exhibits to honor holidays and Black History Month is no exception!

### **Study African American culture and recipes**

One of the best ways to get to know a culture is by making and enjoying their food! Take a dive into African-inspired cuisine and find dishes to try with your family. Decide upon a few recipes to make with your child and encourage him or her to get in on the fun making the dish with your guidance! Try to make one meal per week throughout the month to celebrate African American culture.

### **Check out other local kid-friendly events**

Many public libraries, museums, and playhouses offer classes, story time events or other activities based upon topic. There's no doubt that there is something happening in your area to celebrate Black History in February. Go see a play, or view African American art. Use the web to check out your local venues and programming to plan your month! (Kids Academy, 2021)



# Room Updates

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## Room 1 – Continuity of Care

Hello Room 1! This month we will be talking about Black History Month, Valentine's Day, and the Presidents. We will have a Valentine's celebration on February 14th, if you would like to bring Valentine's cards for your children to pass out. Just remember no candy. We are going to focus on sorting colors and talk about whether items sink or float. We will also be talking about things that are hard or soft. We will be working on playing kindly with others, helping during clean up, and using walking feet in the room.

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## Room 2 – One Year Olds

Hello families! This month we are learning about Black History Month, Valentine's Day, President's Day, and Groundhogs Day. We will be doing a Valentine's Day Celebration where children can hand out cards and we will have a special snack that day. If you bring cards, please do not include candy with those. We will also be sending home artwork and a short toddler friendly book about Presidents, so please check your child's cubby during the day.



## Room 3 – Two Year Olds

Happy February, Room 3 families! We are looking forward to celebrating Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, and President's Day. We are looking forward to all of the fun activities and exploration we will do surrounding these holidays.

We also want to welcome Ms. Tiffani to Room 3! Please feel free to plan some extra time at pick-up to meet and get to know her.

# Room Updates

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## Room 4 – Continuity of Care

Hello Room 4 families! In February we will be focusing on Groundhog Day, Black History Month, Valentine's Day, and President's Day. We will be discussing diverse family communication, the landmarks in our local community, and learning about president's then vs. now. As always, we'll be enjoying our outdoor exploration throughout the winter. Follow along for another great month in Room 4!



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## Room 5 – Infants

Happy February Room 5! We're so excited to celebrate Black History Month with a collaborative gross motor mural celebrating diversity and enjoying a new book, The ABCs of Black History. We're also looking forward to creatively expressing ourselves with Valentine colors and nature based art. We're most excited about celebrating Koda's birthday this month! As always, this month's individual plans for your child are updated and in their cubby! Please feel free to leave questions/comments or talk with me about them during drop off!

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## Room 6 – Three Year Olds

Hello Room 6 families! Join us for an exciting February where we will explore Black History Month, Valentine's Day, and our class family. We will be sharing our family portraits at circle time, making Valentine's Day mailboxes, and learning about various forms of measurement! We are looking forward to another great month in Room 6!

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## Room 7 – 4/5 Year Olds

Happy February Room 7 families! We have a fun month planned to celebrate Black History Month, Valentine's Day, President's Day, and Friendship. We will be writing cards to our friends, holding a mock election, exploring black artists, and creating a group mosaic. February is sure to be full of opportunities for growth and exploration!