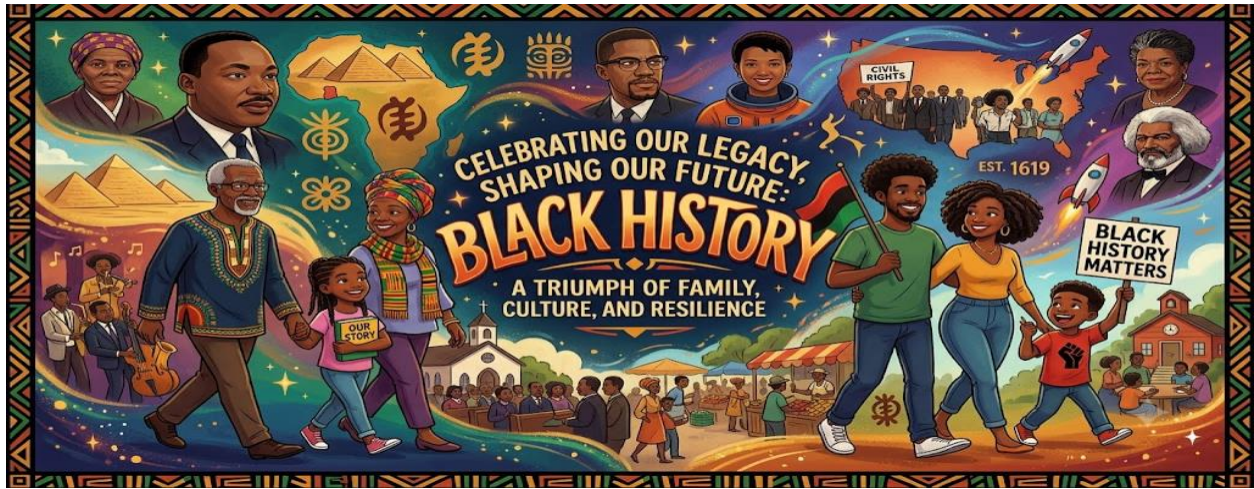




☀️ Read to Rise: ☀️

A Black History Back-to-School Reading Challenge

August 3, 2026 – August 30, 2026

🎨 Little Learners

Your Weekly Reading Adventure! ★

Every Monday, a brand-new adventure begins! First, look at your challenge list and pick a cool reading category. (Remember to pick a new one each week!) Next, find a book that matches that category and start reading.

Once you finish your book, it's time for some extra fun! Complete the special weekly activity, and complete your weekly ticket ([click for ticket](#)) and submit.

Submit your ticket every week by **Sunday at 5:00 PM** to claim your guaranteed weekly prize and secure up to four entries into the Grand Finale prize drawing at the end of the challenge!

Grab a book, read and explore, and let the fun begin!



1. Brilliant Scientists & Inventors

- **The Reading:** Read a book about a famous Black scientist or inventor.
- **The Mission:** Name **three things** invented by a Black creator. Pick your favorite one and either draw a big picture of it or build a small model of it using blocks or playdough!



2. Delicious Cultural Foods

- **The Reading:** Read a book about traditional Black foods, Sunday dinners, or community feasts.
- **The Mission:** Look through the book or talk with a grown-up to **choose a favorite recipe**. Go into the kitchen together and help make it for the family!



3. The Freedom Quilt Design

- **The Reading:** Read a book about history, bravery, and how freedom quilts used secret patterns to help people find safety.
- **The Mission:** Draw and color a single **quilt square** on a sheet of paper. Tell a grown-up exactly what your secret pattern or shapes mean!



4. Marvelous Musicians & Singers

- **The Reading:** Read a book about a famous Black musician, jazz player, or singer.
- **The Mission:** Find a recording of that person's music. Put it on to **listen to their song**, and sing along or dance to the rhythm!



5. African Kings & Traditions

- **The Reading:** Read a non-fiction book about an African nation, a great African king or queen, or a special cultural tradition.
- **The Mission:** Share **one amazing fact** you learned about that country or tradition with a friend or family member.



6. Beautiful Stories & Art History

- **The Reading:** Read a book written by a Black author **OR** a book showcasing Black art history and painters.
- **The Mission:** Be the artist! Grab your crayons, markers, or paints and **create a brand-new masterpiece** inspired by the colors and stories in the book.



Grand Finale: A drawing will be held on August 31, 2026, featuring two grand prize winners from each category of the reading challenge (Little Learners, Elementary Explorers, and the Middle-High School Experience). Every weekly ticket you submit enters your name into the drawing, giving you up to four chances to win.