

1:2 Using the Pack

Black Bristolians: People Who Make a Difference

This pack has been developed in partnership between Children and Young People's Services, the Bristol Black Archives Partnership (BBAP), and Firstborn Creatives. The pack is designed to enable teachers to address a range of race equality issues with confidence, and to provide a sense of Black history and role models for young people. It includes biographies and teachers' notes on 25 Black Bristolians who have made a difference to the city, selected by BBAP (who interviewed them, researched and wrote the biographies and supplied the images). There are lesson plans for teachers to use, relevant to all ages, and a DVD made by Firstborn Creatives, in which young people from Glenfrome Primary School and The City Academy interview some of the key figures. The resource has been sponsored by BBAP, Cabot Circus and the Heritage Lottery Fund. Within the pack there is a discrete section about each Black Bristolian featured, which consists of:

a. Suggested Activities page

Teachers should read the suggested activities page for each Black Bristolian before deciding what aspect to cover with their pupils. Ideas or activities adapted from a different Key Stage may better meet the needs of your pupils. It would be really useful if staff upload all new lessons and resources that they develop onto the breazshare.net website for other staff to use and adapt.

b. Biographies

The short biographies with pictures should be used by teachers with their pupils. These should be shared in all lessons – not necessarily just by reading them. The biography could be told as a story, showing the pictures, artefacts related to the person shown and sequenced, made into a powerpoint or incorporated in a role play etc.

There are also teachers' background notes on each Black Bristolian, which will give the teacher more information on their story which will enable them to answer questions from pupils.

Many of the biographies have race equality issues in them, and teachers should discuss these with the children and support them to relate them to their own experiences of race equality issues.

Discussions and activities from the biographies could include:

- What did they do?
- How did it make a difference to people's lives?
- What were the main difficulties that they faced?
- Discussing in groups the personal qualities of the person e.g. persistence. Have they heard of this person before? If not, why not?
- Role playing the life of the Black Bristolian.
- Producing a poster about the Black Bristolian, produce a story-board of their life.
- Writing a list of questions they would like to ask.

The messages each Black Bristolian gives at the end of their short biography are powerful and could be used as a separate lesson.

c. Lesson Plans

Lesson plans are available on each Black Bristolian for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1-3. The lesson plans should be adapted to meet the needs of each class. Teachers should ensure time is given at the end of the lesson to reflect on the Black Bristolian and their contribution to Bristol.

Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1

Practitioners should use their established methods of assessment such as observation which will inform their planning and formal assessment. Suggested activities are seen as starting points and practitioners should build on children's interests and questions. The Foundation Stage is the right stage to start to address these issues with children. It provides pupils with opportunities to experiment with vocabulary and issues and play with language.

Key Stage 2

Teachers of KS2 can adapt and use lesson plans from KS1 and KS3 depending on the age, ability and experience of their pupils.

Key Stage 3/4

Some of these lessons use the Learning to Learn resources which develop thinking skills in the curriculum. For more information on this see National Strategy – Leading in Learning: Developing thinking skills at KS3 and Thinking through History by Peter Fisher.

d. Resources

We have provided some resources in the pack, but others may need to be added. All resources used must reflect diversity. Whiteboard resources can be easily developed from those provided. It is important that the

teachers also refer to the resources available on www.breazshare.net

All of the resources in the pack are also available on the accompanying CD for teachers to reproduce, adapt etc.

Inviting a Black Bristolian to the school

Visitors from our communities are an excellent resource. Time should be given to ensure the visitor is welcomed and treated with courtesy and respect.

Some of the Black Bristolians featured in the pack are still living in Bristol, and are happy to be contacted and come into schools. See the resource/contact page for each person's details. Some will charge schools for this as the work is on a freelance basis.

Glossary

Please use the Glossary of words and phrases to ensure correct usage, as careful use of language is a key tool to exploring race equality issues.

The DVD

A DVD has been produced by a local company, Firstborn Creatives. They worked with young people from Glenfrome Primary School and The City Academy and supported them as they learnt how to carry out research on the biographies and develop interview techniques. They then interviewed six of the Black Bristolians, using questions they had devised. These interviews should be used to accompany the biographies, and the DVD itself can be useful for young people to consider research and investigation techniques.

Inspirations Production

In addition to the pack, Children and Young People's Services commissioned Sul'Art to provide workshops in 18 schools on the contribution of Black Bristolians to the city, which was delivered by local historian, Edson Burton. Local artists were allocated to each school to develop a creative piece inspired loosely by the Black Bristolians' biographies. The artists also served as positive role models for the children.

Each school showcased a piece of poetry, dance, drama or visual art and the production was scripted by Edson, to give an overall perspective of the key role Black Bristolians play in Bristol. This production, entitled *Inspirations* was performed to packed audiences at the Feilden Theatre at the City Academy on Saturday 8th December 2007.