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Elementary School

Curio, **Viola Desmond**

- “The story of one of Canada’s most famous civil rights icons, and the soon-to-be- face of the \$10 bill is told.” *This is on Curio, a free CBC educational resource you will need to sign up for a free account to access content.* (3 min)
- Access [here](#)

Hara, Jill, **Joe**

- “This animated short tells the story of Seraphim "Joe" Fortes, one of Vancouver's most beloved citizens. Born in the West Indies, Joe Fortes swam in English Bay for more than 30 years. A self-appointed lifeguard at first, he became so famous that the city of Vancouver finally rewarded him with a salary for doing what he loved best. He taught thousands of people to swim and saved over a hundred lives. Yet there were some who did not respect him because of his skin colour. Through his determination, kindness and love for children, Joe helped shift attitudes.” (9 minutes)
- Access [here](#).

Pietrobruno, Ileana, **Harry Jerome: The Fastest Man On Earth**

- “This (NFB) short film is a condensed version of our feature documentary **Mighty Jerome**, made especially for elementary and middle-school classes. Canadian athlete Harry Jerome overcame racism to reach the height of track-and-field success. When an injury ended his career, Jerome continued training and went on to achieve one of the greatest comebacks in sports history.” (10 minutes)
- Access [here](#).

Sawadogo, Cilia, **Christopher Changes His Name**

- “This animated short for children tells the story of Christopher, a little boy who didn't want to be called Christopher anymore. Such a common name! When Auntie Gail from Trinidad tells him a story about a Tiger, Christopher changes his name to Tiger. But then he finds a better name. When he has trouble cashing a birthday cheque, he realizes maybe he should stick with his original name... or maybe not?

Part of the **Talespinners** collection, which uses vibrant animation to bring popular children's stories from a wide range of cultural communities to the screen." (7 min)

- Access [here](#)

Sony Pictures, **Hair Love**

- This Oscar Winning short film, based on the picture book of the same name is the story of a Black father-daughter duo who work together to do the daughter's hair in the mother's absence. Great for discussions on race and body-positivity.
- Access [here](#).

Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario, **365 Day Black Canadian Curriculum**

- Available in English and French, this site includes a calendar featuring a Black Canadian born on every day of the year and a teacher resource guide of lessons and accompanying worksheets/resources for elementary students.
- Access [here](#).

Middle School

CBC, **23 Historical Black Canadians You Should Know**

- An interactive website. Students can click on images of individuals and gather introductory information on the "stories, experiences and accomplishments" of Black Canadians.
- Access [here](#).

Curio, **A Brief history of the Black Lives Matter Movement**

- "CBC Kids News contributor Elijah Sandiford digs into the history of the Black Lives Matter movement. Historian and sociologist Afua Cooper describes some critical moments in black history and Vancouver activist Jacob Callender-Prasad talks about his role fighting anti-black racism." *This is on Curio, a free CBC educational resource you will need to sign up for a free account to access content.* (7 min)
- Access [here](#)

Curio, **Black Panther: For black youth, more than a superhero movie**

- Marvel's *Black Panther* has arrived to critical acclaim, but artistic merit aside, for lots of black youth it's much more than a superhero movie. CBC News followed a group of teenagers who won a screening to *Black Panther* to find out what the movie means to them and the lessons they learned from seeing the groundbreaking film. *This is on Curio, a free CBC educational resource you will need to sign up for a free account to access content.* (9 min)
- Access [here](#)

Curio, **Freedom Summer**

- At this summer camp in Toronto, Black youth learn about self-love and Black liberation. Moon is a 13-year-old discovering what it means to take responsibility as a leader.

Rihanna is a seven-year-old learning to love the skin she's in. *Freedom Summer* follows them as they learn about themselves and others at Black Lives Matter Toronto's Freedom School — a summer camp where Black kids learn that Black is beautiful. *This is on Curio, a free CBC educational resource you will need to sign up for a free account to access content.* (12 min)

- Access [here](#)

McTair, Roger, **Journey to Justice**

- “This documentary pays tribute to a group of Canadians who took racism to court. They are Canada's unsung heroes in the fight for Black civil rights. Focusing on the 1930s to the 1950s, this film documents the struggle of 6 people who refused to accept inequality. Featured here, among others, are Viola Desmond, a woman who insisted on keeping her seat at the Roseland movie theatre in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia in 1946 rather than moving to the section normally reserved for the city's Black population, and Fred Christie, who took his case to the Supreme Court after being denied service at a Montreal tavern in 1936. These brave pioneers helped secure justice for all Canadians. Their stories deserve to be told.” Recommended age 12+ (47 min)
- Access [here](#)

Nova Scotia Archives, **Africville Story Map**

- A step-by-step story map that explains the history of Africville. Each tab in the story includes an image and an explanation on the chronological history of the North End of Halifax.
- Access story map [here](#).

Pietrobruno, Ileana, **Harry Jerome: The Fastest Man On Earth**

- “This (NFB) short film is a condensed version of our feature documentary *Mighty Jerome*, made especially for elementary and middle-school classes. Canadian athlete Harry Jerome overcame racism to reach the height of track-and-field success. When an injury ended his career, Jerome continued training and went on to achieve one of the greatest comebacks in sports history.” (10 minutes)
- Access [here](#).

Rankaduwa, Sandamini, **Ice Breakers**

- This NFB short film spans 15 minutes, “Josh Crooks is a promising teen hockey star in a sport where Black players like him are chronically underrepresented. *Ice Breakers* reveals the buried history of a pioneering Black hockey league in Atlantic Canada, as Crooks discovers that his unshakable passion is tied to a rich and remarkable heritage.”
- Access [here](#).

High School

Bowen & Johnson, **The Secret Life of Canada: The Province of Jamaica**

- With a social justice lens, this podcast takes listeners through historical events of Canada's past. In this episode, it "examines the legacies of black activists and Sleeping Car Porters in Canadian history, and investigates the causes of systemic racism". Some mature language, should be vetted by teachers for suitability of student audience.
- Access podcast and teaching resources [here](#).

Canadian Encyclopedia, **Africville**

- Overview of the historic Black Neighborhood outside Halifax, Nova Scotia. The article includes history, legacy, urban renewal, connections to the Halifax Explosion, and much more. Written by Celine Copper and Clayton Ma- updated 2021.
- Access [here](#)

Canadian Encyclopedia, **Hogan's Alley**

- Overview of the historic Black neighborhood in Vancouver BC. Article includes history, culture, urban renewal and legacy of the area. Written by Wayde Compton – updated 2019.
- Access [here](#).

CBC, **23 Historical Black Canadians You Should Know**

- This is an interactive website. Students can click on images of individuals and gather introductory information on the "stories, experiences and accomplishments" of Black Canadians.
- Access [here](#).

Curio, **How much do we know about Black History in Canada?**

- How much do we know about black history in Canada? Who were the key figures? What do we lose when we don't include black stories in our history? Moderated by Amanda Parris, host of *Exhibitionists* on CBC Arts, the panel includes: Nikki Clarke, Ontario Black History Society; Afua Cooper, Dalhousie University; Andrea Davis, York University; and Karen Flynn, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. *This is on Curio, a free CBC educational resource you will need to sign up for a free account to access content.* (50 min)
- Access [here](#)

Curio, **The Skin We're In**

- Urgent, controversial and undeniably honest, *The Skin We're In* is a wake-up call to complacent Canadians. Racism is here. It is everywhere. It is us and we are it. Following celebrated journalist Desmond Cole as he researches his hotly anticipated book, this documentary from acclaimed director Charles Officer pulls back the curtain on racism in Canada. *This is on Curio, a free CBC educational resource you will need to sign up for a free account to access content.* (45 min)
- Access [here](#)

Curio, **Viewpoint** | **Why its time for Black History Month to go**

- Writer Bee Quammie delves into Black History Month in Canada: "There is no benefit to treating black history like something that goes stale by March 1st, because Black Canadian history is Canadian history." *This is on Curio, a free CBC educational resource you will need to sign up for a free account to access content.* (2 min)
- Access [here](#)

Jacob, Selwyn **The Road Taken**

- "This 1996 documentary takes a nostalgic ride through history to present the experiences of Black sleeping-car porters who worked on Canada's railways from the early 1900s through the 1960s. There was a strong sense of pride among these men and they were well-respected by their community. Yet, harsh working conditions prevented them from being promoted to other railway jobs until finally, in 1955, porter Lee Williams took his fight to the union.

Claiming discrimination under the Canada Fair Employment Act, the Blacks won their right to work in other areas. Interviews, archival footage and the music of noted jazz musician Joe Sealy (whose father was a porter) combine to portray a fascinating history that might otherwise have been forgotten." (52 min)

- Access [here](#)

Jumel, Okeyo **The Black Loyalist, Nova Scotia**

- This youtube video was created to explain the origin, voyage and experiences of Black Loyalists and their descendants. It includes many interviews of Black Canadians connecting their ancestry to the present. (10 min)
- Access [here](#)

Nova Scotia Archives, **African Nova Scotians in the Age of Slavery and Abolition**

- Delve into the Nova Scotia Archives to learn the stories, and experiences of early Black settlers. The website is multifaceted, including curated primary sources and instructional material to support students translating the language and terms of the time, in their quest to interpret and understand the material.
- Access primary source documents [here](#).

Nova Scotia Archives, **Africville Story Map**

- A step-by-step story map that explains the history of Africville. Each tab in the story includes an image and an explanation on the chronological history of the North End of Halifax.
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McTair, Roger, **Journey to Justice**

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among others, are Viola Desmond, a woman who insisted on keeping her seat at the Roseland movie theatre in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia in 1946 rather than moving to the section normally reserved for the city's Black population, and Fred Christie, who took his case to the Supreme Court after being denied service at a Montreal tavern in 1936. These brave pioneers helped secure justice for all Canadians. Their stories deserve to be told." Recommended age 12+ (47 min)

- Access [here](#)

Officer, Charles, **Unarmed Verses**

- "This feature documentary presents a thoughtful and vivid portrait of a community facing imposed relocation. At the centre of the story is a remarkably astute and luminous 12-year-old black girl whose poignant observations about life, the soul, and the power of art give voice to those rarely heard in society. *Unarmed Verses* is a cinematic rendering of our universal need for self-expression and belonging." (1 h 25 min)
- Access [here](#)

Rankaduwa, Sandamini, **Ice Breakers**

- This NFB short film spans 15 minutes, "Josh Crooks is a promising teen hockey star in a sport where Black players like him are chronically underrepresented. *Ice Breakers* reveals the buried history of a pioneering Black hockey league in Atlantic Canada, as Crooks discovers that his unshakable passion is tied to a rich and remarkable heritage."
- Access [here](#).

Saal, Michka, **Zero Tolerance**

- "Being young is tough, especially if you're Black, Latino, Arab or Asian. In a city like Montreal, you can get targeted and treated as a criminal for no good reason. *Zero Tolerance* reveals how deep seated prejudice can be. On one side are the city's young people, and on the other, its police force. Two worlds, two visions. Yet one of these groups is a minority, while the other wields real power. One has no voice, while the other makes life-and-death decisions.

When a policy of zero tolerance to crime masks an intolerance to young people of colour, the delicate balance between order and personal freedom is upset. A blend of cinéma vérité and personal testimonies, this hard-hitting film will broaden your mind and change your way of thinking. In French with English subtitles." (1 hr 15 min)

- Access [here](#)

Shum, Mina, **Ninth Floor**

- "Director Mina Shum makes her foray into feature documentary by reopening the file on a watershed moment in Canadian race relations – the infamous Sir George Williams Riot. Over four decades after a group of Caribbean students accused their professor of racism, triggering an explosive student uprising, Shum locates the protagonists and listens as they set the record straight, trying to make peace with the past"
- Access [here](#).

Sidhoo, Ryan **True North: Inside the Rise of Toronto Basketball**

- “On the heels of the Toronto Raptors’ historic NBA Championship and the record-setting number of Canadian draft picks, the Toronto hoop dream is more alive than ever. In this feature-length doc, director Ryan Sidhoo shines the spotlight on 12-year-old Elijah Fisher, 15-year-old Keone Davis and 18-year-old Cordell Veira as they navigate today’s youth basketball machine in pursuit of their own NBA dreams.” (1hr 29 min)
- Access [here](#)

St. Philip, Elizabeth, **The Colour of Beauty**

- A NFB Canada made production. “Renee Thompson is trying to make it as a top fashion model in New York. She's got the looks, the walk and the drive. But she’s a black model in a world where white women represent the standard of beauty. Agencies rarely hire black models. And when they do, they want them to look “like white girls dipped in chocolate.”
- Access [here](#).

UNILEARNAL, **28 Moments of Black Canadian History**

- This YouTube channel consists of 28 videos ranging in length from 3- 10 minutes, each a unique story. The video connects viewers with a Black Canadian, speaking about an important Black figure in Canadian history.
- Access [here](#).

Morrison, Ernestine, **“The Average Black Girl”**

- A powerful and honest 4 min. spoken word performance about the inherent racism being complimented for being better than the average Black girl.
- Access [here](#).
- Supplementary, Canadian poems (not spoken word) on the same theme [here](#).

Vancouver Heritage Foundation, **Hogan’s Alley**

- “There has been a Black community in Vancouver since before there was a Vancouver”. This website chronicles the history of Hogan’s Alley. The website includes summaries, history, videos, images and maps of the historic Hogan’s Alley.
- Access [here](#)

Teacher Guides and/or Personal Professional Development

Henry, Natasha **Black History Month #BlackHistoryMatters**

- “This guide will help educators and students to gain knowledge about the history and contributions of African civilizations and people of African descent in Canada while using media literacy skills as vehicle to explore various aspects of Black History”. (37 pages, suitable for grades 6-10)
- Access [here](#)

FAST, Fighting Anti-Semitism Together: Voices Into Action

- This extensive website includes many unit and lesson plans to discuss, engage and learn about the complex topic of racism in the classroom. Topics on Black History include: Rwanda Genocide, Human Rights and The Black Experience.
- Access [here](#).

Historica Canada, Black History In Canada: Education Guide

- This teacher resource guide revolves around Lawrence Hill's novel, *The Book Of Negroes*. Provides a timeline, supplementary sources and discussion questions to go along with the novel.
- Access [here](#).

University of Windsor, Breaking the Colour Barrier: Wilfred "Boomer" Harding and the Chatham Coloured All-Stars (1932-1939) Lesson Plans

- This project includes detailed lesson plans and materials that highlight one of the first Black-Canadian baseball teams (played in the OBAA as they were not allowed in MLB at that time). Lessons available for grades 1 through 12 with grade appropriate activities. Many of the lessons include primary source documents that students are asked to engage with and analyze.
- Access [here](#).