



History Explorers

Description & Book: *Zora & Me: The Cursed Ground*, by T.R. Simon. Explore local history and discuss its impact on our lives today. Then, create a product that reflects what you have learned about your community.

Materials:

- Historical photographs
- Information about African-American history in your community/region
- Presenters from local history/historical society departments or from the community
- Supplies for the products you wish the participants to create

Estimated Cost: \$0-\$50, depending on if you need to supply a donation to local history organization or need to purchase supplies.

Prep time: If you are not using a presenter, it could be about 1-4 hours in order to do research and compile information for program.

Instructions:

- Decide what product you'd like the participants to create – examples can include a visual art piece, writing a poem or short story, or creating a video.
- Contact your local history department or historical society for a presenter or for help finding resources about African-American history in your community/region.
- If you aren't having a presenter, put together mini lessons/presentations on a variety of events and people.
- Discuss how historical figures or events in your community or region might affect our lives today.
- Using supplies provided, participants will create a product that reflects what they have learned about their community's history.

Additional Resources:

- Your local history department or historical society
- Community members
- Equal Justice Initiative (EJI): <https://museumandmemorial.eji.org/>
- National Museum of African American History & Culture: <https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/collection>
- Documenting the American South: <https://docsouth.unc.edu/fpn/aboutfpn.html>
- Library of Congress: http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/journey/index.html
- National Archives: <https://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/black-history.html>

Learning Objective: To discover how history can impact our lives today, and to bring those impacts to light for exploration and discussion.

Prepared By: Pamela Jayne, Youth Services Librarian, Boone County Public Library

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Identity in Children's Literature: Representing all kids through library programming