

Social Studies

Grade 3 / Week 5

Your Week at a Glance

- Area of focus: Civics- Lesson: Hispanic Heritage
- Area of Focus: Civics – Lesson: Black History
- Area of Focus: Civics – Lesson: Women’s History
- STANDARDS:

SS.3.C.2.1 Identify group and individual actions of citizens that demonstrate civility, cooperation, volunteerism, and other civic virtues.

- STATUTES: 1003.42 f, h, p, q

Name

Teacher

Hispanic Heritage Month **(adapted from Florida Studies Weekly Week 7)**

The word 'Hispanic' is used to describe Spanish-speaking people in the United States of any race. Hispanic people often share a common culture (way of life) as well as the Spanish language. Did you know that around 50 million people identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino on the 2010 census (a count of the population)?"

Hispanic Heritage Month is a month when we celebrate the history, traditions and culture of Hispanic people in the U.S. We also recognize the contributions that Hispanic Americans have made, and continue to make, to our country.

In 1968, Congress passed a law that stated the president could announce a yearly 'Hispanic Heritage Week.' The week always included the dates Sept. 15 and 16. In 1988, they changed the weeklong celebration to a month long celebration. Now Hispanic Heritage Month is Sept. 15 through Oct. 15.

Why do we start this month long celebration on Sept. 15 instead of Sept. 1. It's because five of our Central American neighbors celebrate their Independence Days around Sept. 15! Those five countries are Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Juan Ponce de Leon

Juan Ponce de Leon was a Spanish explorer who came to Florida in 1513. Historians believe that Ponce de Leon was born in 1460 in Spain. He served the king and queen of Spain and sailed across the Atlantic to find new lands and people to conquer. In the spring of 1513, he landed on the east coast of Florida near the city we call St. Augustine. Did you know that St. Augustine is the oldest city established by Europeans in the United States?

Ponce de Leon explored Florida in search of fresh water and gold. (Some people believe he was looking for the Fountain of Youth. The story says that anyone who drinks from the Fountain of Youth will always be young.) After being attacked by American Indians, Ponce de León left Florida and went to Cuba. He later died there at the age of 61.

Ellen Ochoa

Ellen was born in 1958 in Los Angeles, California. When she was 11 years old, Neil Armstrong walked on the moon. But Ellen never dreamed of becoming an astronaut until she was in college, where she studied physics and engineering. Ellen graduated from San Diego State University. Later, she got a master's degree and a doctorate from Stanford University. When Sally Ride became our country's first female astronaut in

1983, Ellen Ochoa started aiming higher and working even harder. She even helped invent a technical operating system for aerospace systems.

In 1990, NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) asked her to join their team of scientists. Dr. Ochoa worked on flight software, computer hardware and robotics. In 1991, her dream of being an astronaut came true. She was the world's first Hispanic female astronaut. She has flown on four space flights and spent more than 950 hours in space.

Dr. Ochoa earned many awards for her hard work. Her NASA awards include an Outstanding Leadership Medal and four Space Flight Medals. She also has two schools named in her honor: the Ellen Ochoa Middle School in Pasco, Washington, and the Ellen Ochoa Learning Center in Cudahy, California.

Today, Dr. Ochoa is the Deputy Director at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. She is married and has two children.

Think and Review

1. Why does the United States recognize and celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month?

2. Why does Hispanic Heritage Month begin on Sept. 15 instead of Sept. 1?

3. How are Juan Ponce de León and Dr. Ellen Ochoa alike? How are they different?

Black History Month **(adapted from Florida Studies Weekly Week 18)**

In 1926, a man named Carter G. Woodson created a weeklong celebration called 'Negro History Week.' Woodson was a teacher, historian and publisher. He wanted to celebrate African American contributions (things given) to America's history and culture. Back in 1926, people mostly ignored the contributions that African Americans made.

Black History Month has come a long way since 1926. After 50 years, the weeklong celebration became a month long celebration in 1976. February was chosen because of two important birthdays in this month. Abraham Lincoln, our 16th president who ended slavery, and Frederick Douglass, a famous abolitionist, author and speaker, were both born in February. An abolitionist was someone who wanted to end slavery.

This month long celebration is all about remembering and honoring African Americans for their contributions to American society and culture.

Civic Virtues

We could study many excellent people study during Black History Month. Two such people are Mary McLeod Bethune and Thurgood Marshall. Both made contributions to their community and to the whole country. Read the biographies (life stories) of Mary McLeod Bethune and Thurgood Marshall.

Mary McLeod Bethune

Mary McLeod was born on July 10, 1875, in South Carolina into a family of former slaves. They all lived and worked on their small farm. They were poor and life was hard for the large family—17 children in all. The family could only afford to send one child to school and they picked Mary. Mary got up early in the morning to do chores, went to school all day, and came home to do more chores. At night she taught her 16 siblings everything she had learned in school that day. The McLeod family knew education was very important.

Mary grew up in a time when most African Americans were not allowed to attend school. Mary was one of the lucky ones. Because she was such a good student, her teachers sent her to a college in North Carolina. Mary began to realize that the education she and other African Americans got was not the same as the education that white people got. Mary wanted to change that.

When Mary was older, she married Albertus Bethune. They had a son, Albert, and the family moved to Daytona, Florida. Mary decided to start a small school called the Daytona Normal and Industrial Institute. It was especially for African American girls. People in the community, both African Americans and white people, helped Mary build the school. Her school is still there today and it is now called Bethune-Cookman University.

Mary continued to work hard to help African Americans, especially women, get a better education and improve their lives. She joined an organization of African American women that fights against discrimination and racism. Mary also opened a hospital in 1911. The McLeod Hospital had both white and African American doctors, and everyone was treated equally.

Mary eventually met and became friends with powerful leaders in Washington, D.C. One of her friends was Eleanor Roosevelt, whose husband Franklin was the president of the United States. Mary and Eleanor both fought against discrimination. In 1936 President Roosevelt asked Mary to work with him, and she became the director of the Division of Negro Affairs. Because of Mary, African American workers were finally allowed to work in places where only white workers once worked. For example, African Americans could be White House reporters.

All her life, Mary continued to work to get equal rights for all people. She died in 1955, but she will never be forgotten. She was a role model for everyone, especially African American women. People remember and honor her by naming schools after her. Her home is now a national museum. Students still learn at her college every day, and there is a statue of her in Washington, D.C.

Thurgood Marshall

Thurgood Marshall was born on July 2, 1908, in Baltimore, Maryland to his proud parents, William and Norma. They named their boy after his grandfather, Thoroughgood, who fought for the Union army in the Civil War. During Thurgood's free time as a boy, he enjoyed reading about lawyers and trials. Sometimes he even went to court and sat in the visitor section. Thurgood learned about law from his father. Thurgood's mother was a teacher, and she taught him the value of a good education.

Thurgood graduated from high school, and in 1925 he attended Lincoln University, an all-male, all-black college. He and some of his friends believed segregation was wrong. He graduated in 1930 and wanted to study law. Thurgood hoped to attend the University of Maryland, but they wouldn't accept him because of his skin color. Instead, he attended Howard University.

Thurgood graduated from Howard University Law School in 1933 at the top of his class. Segregation was still a huge problem in the United States. Thurgood went to work for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He won his first case against the University of Maryland for not admitting an African American student into their law program. Thurgood later became the lawyer for the NAACP. Before long, he was known as one of our country's top lawyers.

Thurgood's most famous case was *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*, held in the Supreme Court. This took place in 1954. A little African American girl named Linda Brown wasn't allowed to attend school near her house because of her skin color.

Thurgood Marshall represented the Brown family in court and won. Segregation in schools was found to be unconstitutional, or against the Constitution.

Unfortunately, that decision didn't end segregation. It took civil rights leaders like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and many others a long time and a lot of hard work to change things.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy appointed Thurgood Marshall to be a judge in a national court. Then in 1967, President Johnson nominated Thurgood to become the first African American Supreme Court justice (judge). He served for 24 years and retired in 1991 after many years of fighting for all people and their rights. Thurgood Marshall died in 1993 but he is still a role model for all Americans. People have named many schools, parks and special places in his honor. Thurgood Marshall helped to end segregation and get equal rights for all people.

Think and Review

1. Do you think February is a good time for Black History Month? Why or why not?

2. Do you think it is important for students to learn about the civil rights movement? Why or why not?

3. How does learning about African American history help all students?

4. What civic virtues did Mary McLeod Bethune and Thurgood Marshall show?

Women's History Month **(adapted from Florida Studies Weekly Week 29)**

Did you know that Women's History Month didn't even exist until 1987?

In 1978, some California teachers realized that students in kindergarten through 12th grade didn't learn much about the women in the United States of America. To fix that problem, the teachers created Women's History Week and celebrated it during the week of March 8. That's the date of International Women's Day.

Many schools planned special programs for Women's History Week. Over 100 women participated by doing special presentations in classrooms throughout the country. Hundreds of students entered an essay contest and watched a parade! Boys and girls loved learning about these women leaders!"

The following year, many communities across the U.S. started celebrating Women's History Week. The celebrations were so popular that in 1980, President Jimmy Carter gave a presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8 as National Women's History Week.

By 1986, 14 states had already declared March as Women's History Month. In 1987, Congress declared the entire month of March as National Women's History Month. The president releases a proclamation every year to honor the amazing achievements of American women.

Each year since 1987, Americans celebrate Women's History Month in March. We celebrate by reading about great women and the important things they have done. People also honor women by holding essay contests and attending special events like parades. It is important to remember the work many women have done that has made the nation what it is today.

Civic Virtues

Susan B. Anthony

Susan Brownell Anthony was born on Feb. 15, 1820, in Battenville, New York. She had two brothers and three sisters. Susan's father owned a cotton mill and business was good for a while. As a teenager, Susan and her older sister went to a private school in Philadelphia. Education was very important to the Anthony family. Sadly, Susan and her sister had to leave the school after attending only six months because their parents could not afford it anymore. Their father's business failed and he lost everything, including their house and furniture. Even Susan's mother had her things taken from her. During that time, women weren't allowed to own property. All of Mrs. Anthony's property belonged to her husband by law. The family moved to another town where Susan worked as a teacher. Susan gave the money she earned to her family to help them pay the bills.

Susan grew up in a time when women did not have the same basic rights as men. Women were not allowed to attend many schools or own property or land. Women could not vote or take part in any government activities. Women were not considered as smart as men were, so employers did not pay them the same as men. Many women found this unfair and frustrating. Susan was one of them. She decided that the laws and ideas of this country had to change.

As an adult, Susan worked as the principal of a school, managed her father's farm and received several offers of marriage! She wasn't interested in any of those things, though. Susan was more interested in ending slavery and getting equal rights for women. She joined a group that spoke out against slavery and was for women's rights. She made her first public speech in 1849. She was born to be a leader!

Susan B. Anthony met other women leaders like Elizabeth Cady Stanton who also supported women's rights. Susan and Elizabeth worked together writing speeches, letters, petitions and newspapers. They also went on speaking tours. Susan once voted in an election and was arrested! The judge told Susan she was a woman and that it was illegal for her to vote. That didn't stop Susan. She and Elizabeth wrote a book in 1881 called "History of Woman Suffrage." The book became famous. Susan worked for women's rights until her death on March 13, 1906.

Finally, in 1920 women were given the right to vote. The 19th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guarantees all citizens, men and women, the right to vote. This was 100 years after Susan B. Anthony's birth. In 1979, the government honored Susan B. Anthony and her work for women's rights with a dollar coin featuring her picture.

Shirley Chisholm

Shirley Anita St. Hill was born Nov. 20, 1924, in Brooklyn, New York. She had three younger sisters and loving parents. When Shirley was just three years old, her parents sent her and her sisters to the Caribbean island of Barbados to live with their grandmother. Her parents didn't want to send their daughters away, but they didn't make enough money to give them a good education. In Barbados, Shirley and her sisters worked on their grandmother's farm and went to excellent schools.

When Shirley was 10 years old, her parents decided it was time for the family to be together again. Shirley and her sisters moved back to Brooklyn. Shirley did not like cold New York or the fact that she had to go back to third grade (she was in sixth grade in Barbados). The teachers thought she wasn't smart because she didn't know about American history or geography. School was not fun for Shirley. She was very smart, and she wasn't allowed to learn harder subjects because she was back in third grade!

Luckily, her parents valued education and made sure that Shirley got a tutor. The St. Hill family loved to read and enjoyed learning about African American history. The family often went to the public library. Shirley read about Harriet Tubman, an African American

woman who led slaves to freedom along the Underground Railroad. Shirley learned that women could be leaders!

Shirley graduated high school at the top of her class and went to Brooklyn College. She met other smart people who wanted to find ways to improve life for Americans. Shirley was talented at organizing events, public speaking and putting her ideas into action! One of her teachers encouraged her to work in the government.

After graduating from Brooklyn College, Shirley went to Columbia University to become a teacher. While at school, she met her future husband, Conrad Chisholm. Shirley and Conrad married and settled in Brooklyn, New York. Shirley continued to be a part of politics, and she was very upset by people's attitudes. Many people did not take African Americans and their ideas seriously. In fact, many ignored African American women. Shirley knew this was not right!

Shirley helped form the Unity Democratic Club—a group of African Americans who were interested in politics (the science of government). Unfortunately, the African American men in the club didn't want the women to run for public office. In 1964, she ignored those men and ran for office in the New York State Assembly. Shirley won! Shirley did a great job and helped write laws to protect citizens.

In 1968, Shirley decided to run for Congress. She was elected to serve in Congress and represent her district, which included Brooklyn. Shirley fought unfairness and worked hard to help poor people and children. Shirley did an amazing job and was re-elected seven times. She served her community as a congresswoman from 1968 to 1982. Many people wanted her to run for president. She did in 1972, but she didn't win. She didn't feel bad about losing. She believed she showed women and African Americans that they could become involved in politics, and that it wasn't only for white men.

Shirley Chisholm proved to all Americans that the United States was changing and becoming a place where all men and women of all races could be equal. On Jan. 1, 2005, Shirley Chisholm died. Partly because of Shirley's hard work, the U.S. has elected all kinds of people to political positions, and many women are proud members of local, state and federal governments.

Think and Review

1. Why do you think women were not allowed to vote before 1920?

2. How do you think Women's History Month and Black History Month are similar AND different?

3. Do you think students should learn about women's history? Why or why not?

4. What important things have women done for our culture?
