



## STONEWALL LESSON PLANS – Black History Month

We've designed these lesson plans to give you some guidance on having an LGBT inclusive Black History Month. Choose the activities that best suit the needs and abilities of your class as well as the time you have available. As well as these lesson plans, we've designed some lesson plans on this theme for students with SEND – these can be found on our website. Each lesson has its own PowerPoint to assist with whole class teaching. Any other suggested resources are noted in each lesson plan.

### Who are Stonewall?

This resource is produced by Stonewall, a UK-based charity that stands for the freedom, equity and potential of all lesbian, gay, bi, trans, queer, questioning and ace (LGBTQ+) people. At Stonewall, we imagine a world where LGBTQ+ people everywhere can live our lives to the full. Founded in London in 1989, we now work in each nation of the UK and have established partnerships across the globe. Over the last three decades, we have created transformative change in the lives of LGBTQ+ people in the UK, helping win equal rights around marriage, having children and inclusive education.

Our campaigns drive positive change for our communities, and our sustained change and empowerment programmes ensure that LGBTQ+ people can thrive throughout our lives. We make sure that the world hears and learns from our communities, and our work is grounded in evidence and expertise.

Stonewall is proud to provide information, support and guidance on LGBTQ+ inclusion; working towards a world where we're all free to be. This does not constitute legal advice, and is not intended to be a substitute for legal counsel on any subject matter. To find out more about our work, visit us at [www.stonewall.org.uk](http://www.stonewall.org.uk).



## Year 3 and 4 – England and Wales

### P4 and P5 – Scotland

**Learning objective:** To retrieve information from a text.

Activity	Details	Resources
<p>Whole class: What is Black History Month (BHM) about and who do we celebrate?</p>	<p>Create a list of ground rules as a class i.e respecting identities and opinions - this may also include no judgement, not speaking over each other and being honest with any and all questions we have.</p> <p>5-minute challenge: Split the class into 5 teams and allocate each team a category from sport, history and politics, music, art, TV/film. Challenge them to name as many role models in that category as possible.</p> <p>How many black people were on their lists? Show some of the black role models on the board. Who have you heard of? Is there a reason that we've heard of fewer black role models? Discuss that in the past, and all too often in current times too, black people often had/have fewer opportunities but also that white people were/are often given the credit for all of their hard work (for example, we don't hear about Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughn and Mary Jackson despite them having played a very important role when they worked for NASA). It's really important that we celebrate the contribution that black people have made to history and highlight black role models.</p> <p>Ask: Who has heard of Black History Month (BHM)? Why might we need BHM?</p> <p>Had they named any black LGBT people in the challenge? Discuss that often we don't hear about black LGBT people from history.</p>	<p><b><u>PowerPoint:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Black History Month PowerPoint Year 3 and 4 P4 and P5</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Paper resources:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bayard Rustin information sheet</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Other resources:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whiteboards and pens</li> </ul>



	Explain that we're going to be learning about a very important black LGBT role model called Bayard Rustin.	
Pairs activity: Research Bayard Rustin	In pairs, children use the information sheet to research Bayard Rustin. They should make bullet point notes to help with the hot-seating activity.	
Pairs activity: Hot seating	Children take on the roles of interviewer and Bayard Rustin and act out a TV interview about Bayard's life and activism.	
Whole class plenary	As a class, identify 5 facts about Bayard Rustin.  If there is time, share some of the interviews that children had acted out.	



## Year 5 and 6 – England and Wales

### P6 and P7 - Scotland

**Learning objective:** To be able to use the features of a persuasive text

Activity	Details	Resources
<p>Whole class: What is Black History Month (BHM) about and who do we celebrate?</p>	<p>Create a list of ground rules as a class i.e respecting identities and opinions - this may also include no judgement, not speaking over each other and being honest with any and all questions we have.</p> <p>3-minute challenge: Split the class into 5 teams and allocate each team a category from sport, history and politics, music, art, TV/film. Challenge them to name as many role models in that category as possible.</p> <p>How many black people were on their lists? Show some of the black role models on the board. Who have you heard of? Is there a reason that we've heard of fewer black role models? Discuss that in the past, and all too often in current times too, black people often had/have fewer opportunities but also that white people were/are often given the credit for all of their hard work (for example, we don't hear about Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughn and Mary Jackson despite them having played a very important role when they worked for NASA). It's really important that we celebrate the contribution that black people have made to history and highlight black role models.</p> <p>Ask: Who has heard of Black History Month (BHM)? Why might we need BHM?</p> <p>Had they named any black LGBT people in the challenge? Discuss that often we don't hear about black LGBT people from history.</p>	<p><b>PowerPoint:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Black History Month PowerPoint Year 3 and 4 P4 and P5</li> </ul> <p><b>Videos:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pop 'n' Olly video: <a href="https://youtu.be/5OY Y-hyKYiw">https://youtu.be/5OY Y-hyKYiw</a></li> <li>Bayard Rustin Speech: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= Z66E ZVtW Q">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= Z66E ZVtW Q</a></li> </ul>



	<p>Explain that we're going to be learning about a very important black LGBT role model called Bayard Rustin.</p> <p>Watch the Pop 'n' Olly video: <a href="https://youtu.be/5OYY-hyYiw">https://youtu.be/5OYY-hyYiw</a></p> <p>Discuss what the children learned about Bayard from the video. Talk about the fact that Bayard isn't as well known as other activists from the civil rights movement, because at the time people had negative attitudes towards LGBT people.</p>	
<p>Whole class and pairs: Features of a good speech</p>	<p>Watch the video of Bayard Rustin speeches: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Z66EZVtW_Q">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Z66EZVtW_Q</a></p> <p><i>Note: Before watching, explain to children that the word 'negro' was used to refer to black people in the past, but it is not appropriate to use that word any more.</i></p> <p>1-minute challenge: In pairs, children identify as many features of a persuasive speech as they can. They can think back to the Bayard Rustin speech.</p> <p>Identify the features of a good persuasive speech – power of three, repetition, emotive language, alliteration, rhetorical questions – to use as success criteria.</p>	
<p>Individual activity: Write a speech</p>	<p>Students write a speech about the importance of equality – be sure to include: race, LGBT, gender, ability, religion.</p>	
<p>Whole class plenary</p>	<p>As a class, look through the success criteria for a good speech. Children should self-assess. Were there any things that were harder to include than others?</p> <p>If there is time, ask some of the children to share their speeches.</p>	

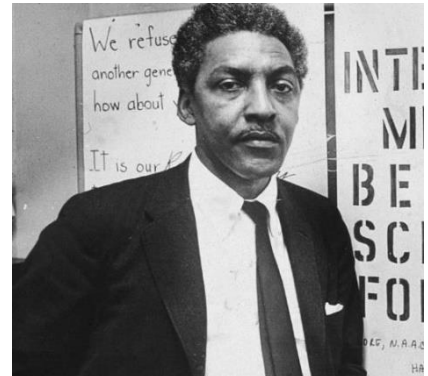
## Bayard Rustin

### Early Life

Bayard Rustin is famous for his role in the Civil Rights Movement in USA. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1912 and raised by his grandparents. Bayard went to Wilberforce University and then Cheyney State Teachers College – these were for black students only, white students had a lot more choice of university.

### The Civil Rights Movement

In the 1950s, black people in America were treated unfairly and did not have the same rights as white people. Black children and white children went to separate schools, black people had to use a different entrance at the cinema and black people were only allowed to sit at the back of the bus. If the bus was full, black people would be expected to give up their seat for a white person. Black people weren't even allowed to vote in elections. The Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s and 1960s was a campaign for equal rights for black people.



Bayard Rustin met Martin Luther King Jr, the most famous person from the Civil Rights Movement, in the 1950s. As he was experienced at organising protests, Bayard was in charge of organising non-violent protests and rallies. He was responsible for organising the 1963 '*March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom*', which was one of the most famous moments in the Civil Rights Movement. Both Bayard Rustin and Martin Luther King Jr made

speeches at the march, with Martin making his famous '*I have a dream*' speech.

The Civil Rights Movement was successful and gave black Americans legal equality. The 1964 Civil Rights Act made it illegal for black children and white children to be sent to different schools. Black people were given the right to vote in elections in 1965,

## Arrested

Bayard Rustin was arrested by the police on lots of occasions. He was sent to jail when he refused to fight in World War 2. In 1947 he was arrested when he was peacefully protesting about black people being treated unfairly. Despite being arrested and going to jail for being gay, he continued to live his life as an openly gay man. Lots of people criticised Bayard for being gay – this included other people who were fighting for equality for black people as well as his political opponents. This did not stop Bayard from continuing his work towards equality for black people as well as equality for lesbian, bi, gay and trans people. People have suggested that Bayard Rustin would have been more well known if he wasn't gay.



## Later life

In 1977 Bayard met Walter Neagle, who was his partner for 10 years. They could not get married, but gay people were starting to face less discrimination. Bayard and Walter were together until Bayard died because of a problem with his appendix.



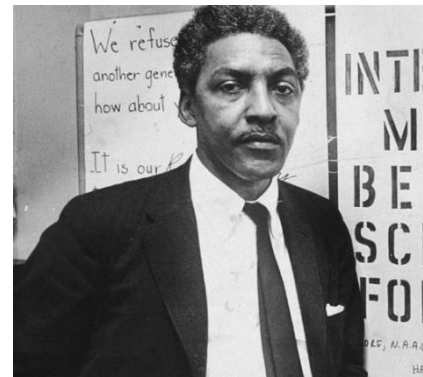
## Bayard Rustin

### Early Life

Bayard Rustin is famous for working for equal rights in the USA. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1912. When he was growing up, Bayard lived with his grandparents.

### The Civil Rights Movement

In the 1950s, black people did not have the same rights as white people. Black children and white children went to separate schools. Black people were only allowed to sit at the back of the bus. Black people weren't even allowed to vote. The Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s and 1960s asked black people to be treated fairly.



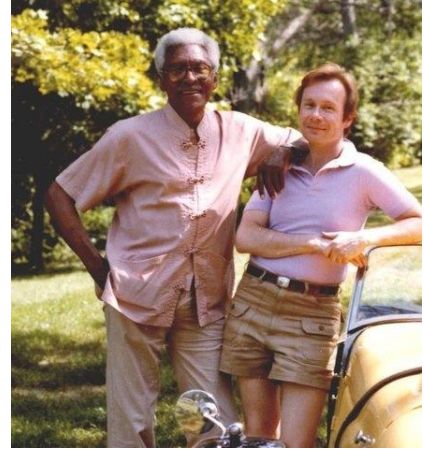
Martin Luther King Jr is the most famous person from the Civil Rights Movement. Bayard met Martin in the 1950s. Bayard was in charge of organising peaceful protests. He organised the 1963 '*March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom*'. This was one of the most famous moments in the Civil Rights Movement. Bayard Rustin and Martin Luther King Jr made speeches at the march. Martin made his famous '*I have a dream*' speech.

The Civil Rights Movement was successful. The 1964 Civil Rights Act said that black children and white children could go to the same schools. In 1965, black people were given the right to vote.



## Arrested

Bayard Rustin was arrested by the police a lot. He did not go and fight in World War 2 so he was sent to jail. In 1947 he was arrested when he was at a protest. Bayard was arrested for being gay because it used to be against the law. Even though he was sent to jail, Bayard kept being honest about being gay. Lots of people did not like it. This did not stop Bayard from working towards equality for black people as well as equality for lesbian, bi, gay and trans people.



## Later life

In 1977 Bayard met his partner Walter Neagle. Bayard and Walter could not get married, but gay people were starting to be more accepted. Bayard and Walter were together for 10 years. Bayard died in 1987.

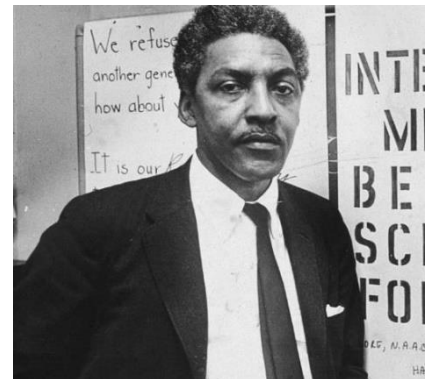
## Bayard Rustin

### Early Life

Bayard Rustin was born in 1912. He lived with his grandparents in USA.

### The Civil Rights Movement

Black people in USA used to be treated unfairly. Black people were only allowed to sit at the back of the bus. In the 1950s and 1960s people started saying that it was wrong. This was called the Civil Rights Movement.

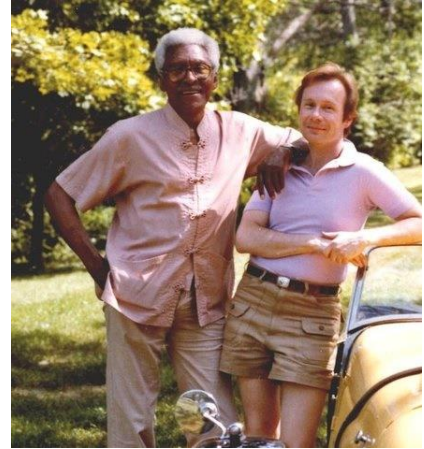


Bayard organised a very famous march. It was called the '*March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom*'. Martin Luther King Junior was at the march. He made a very famous speech. Bayard made a speech too.

Bayard helped to change the law so that black people had the same rights as white people.

## Jail

Bayard Rustin went to jail for being gay. It used to be against the law. Lots of people did not like Bayard because he was gay. Bayard kept working to make sure that black people and lesbian, bi, gay and trans people can have good lives.



## Later life

Bayard's partner was called Walter. They could not get married. Bayard and Walter were together for 10 years. Bayard died in 1987.