

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

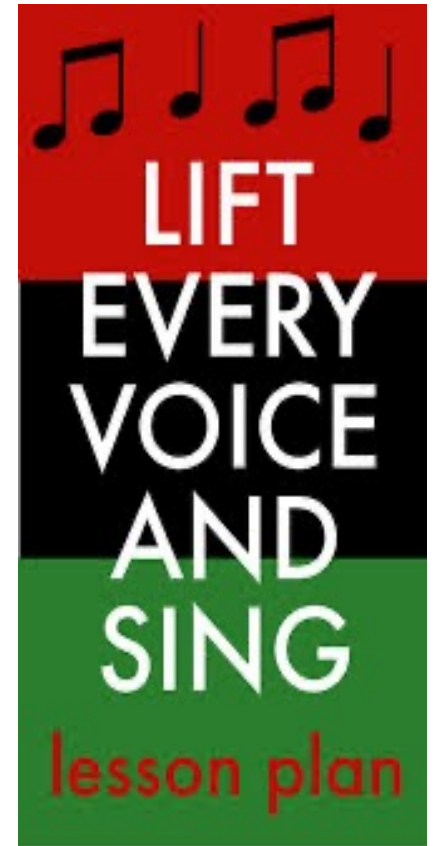


*Lift every voice and sing
Lift every voice and sing,
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.*

*Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has
taught us,*

*Sing a song full of the hope that the present has
brought us.*

*Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.*



Black Heroes

**Presented
by:**

**Harriet
Cowan**

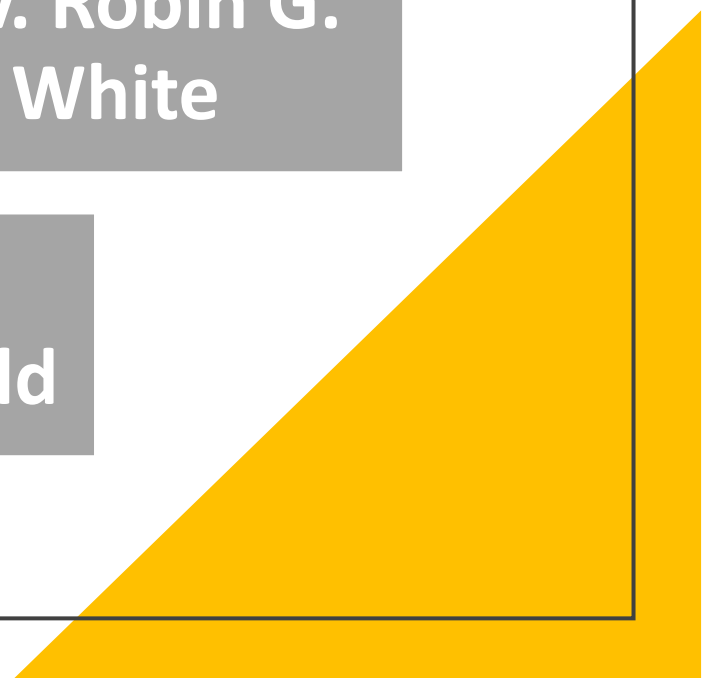
**Lonnetta
Gaines**

**Rev. Robin G.
White**

**Sam
Aldrich**

**Delores
Berrien**

**Jacqui
Fitzgerald**



Carter G. Woodson

was an American historian who first opened the long-neglected field of Black studies to scholars and popularized

the field in schools and

colleges across the United

States¹. He was the second African

American to receive a doctorate

from Harvard, after W.E.B. Du

Bois². Woodson is known as the

"Father of Black History" and founded Negro History Week, which was the precursor of Black History Month³⁴.



Carter G. Woodson

By Harriet Cowan



Charles Richard Drew

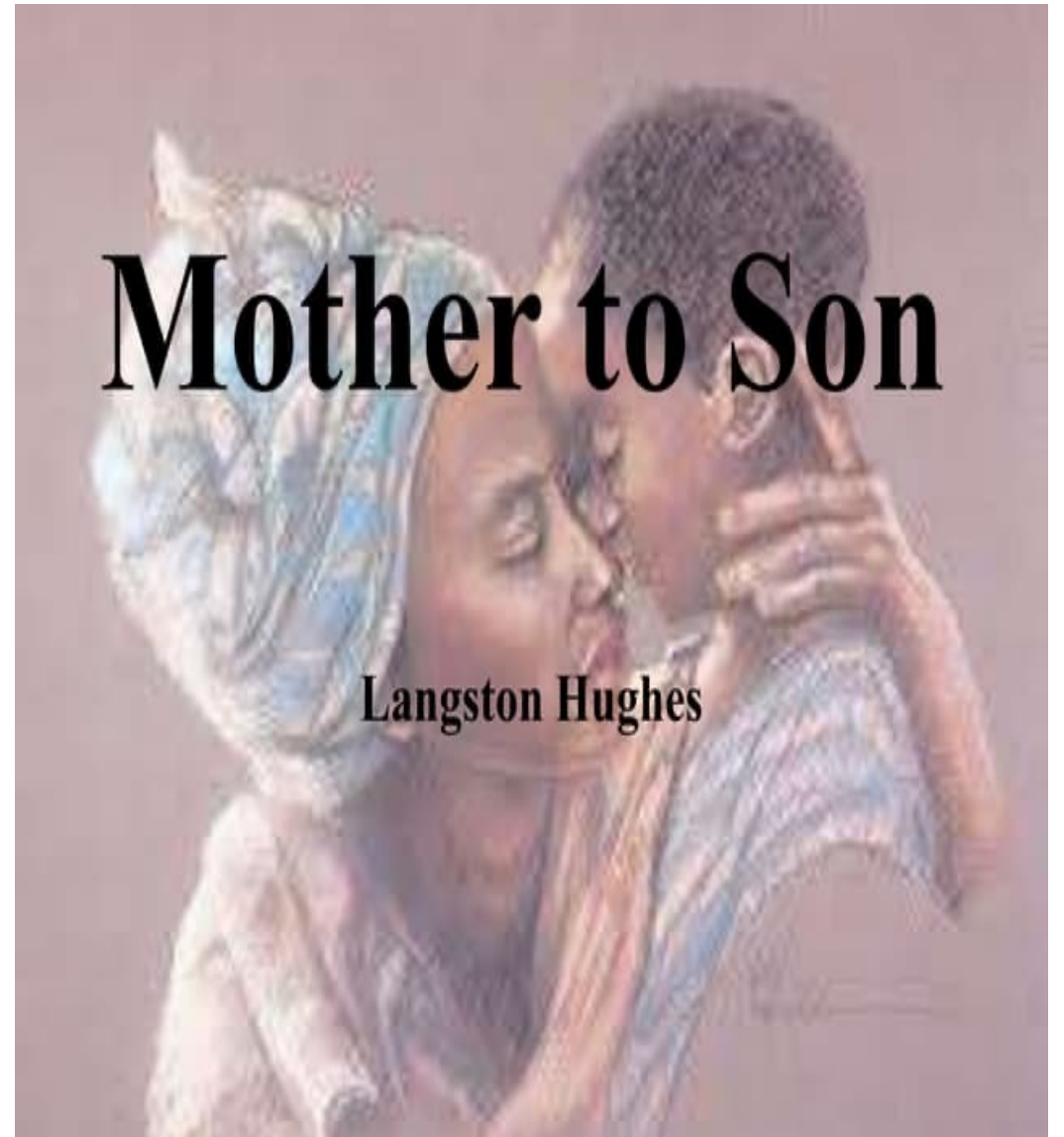
By Harriet Cowan

Charles Richard Drew (June 3, 1904 – April 1, 1950) was an American [surgeon](#) and medical researcher. He researched in the field of [blood transfusions](#), developing improved techniques for blood storage, and applied his expert knowledge to developing large-scale [blood banks](#) early in [World War II](#). This allowed medics to save thousands of [Allied](#) forces' lives during the war.^[1] As the most prominent [African American](#) in the field, Drew protested against the practice of [racial segregation](#) in the donation of blood, as it lacked scientific foundation, and resigned his position with the [American Red Cross](#), which maintained the policy until 1950.^[2]



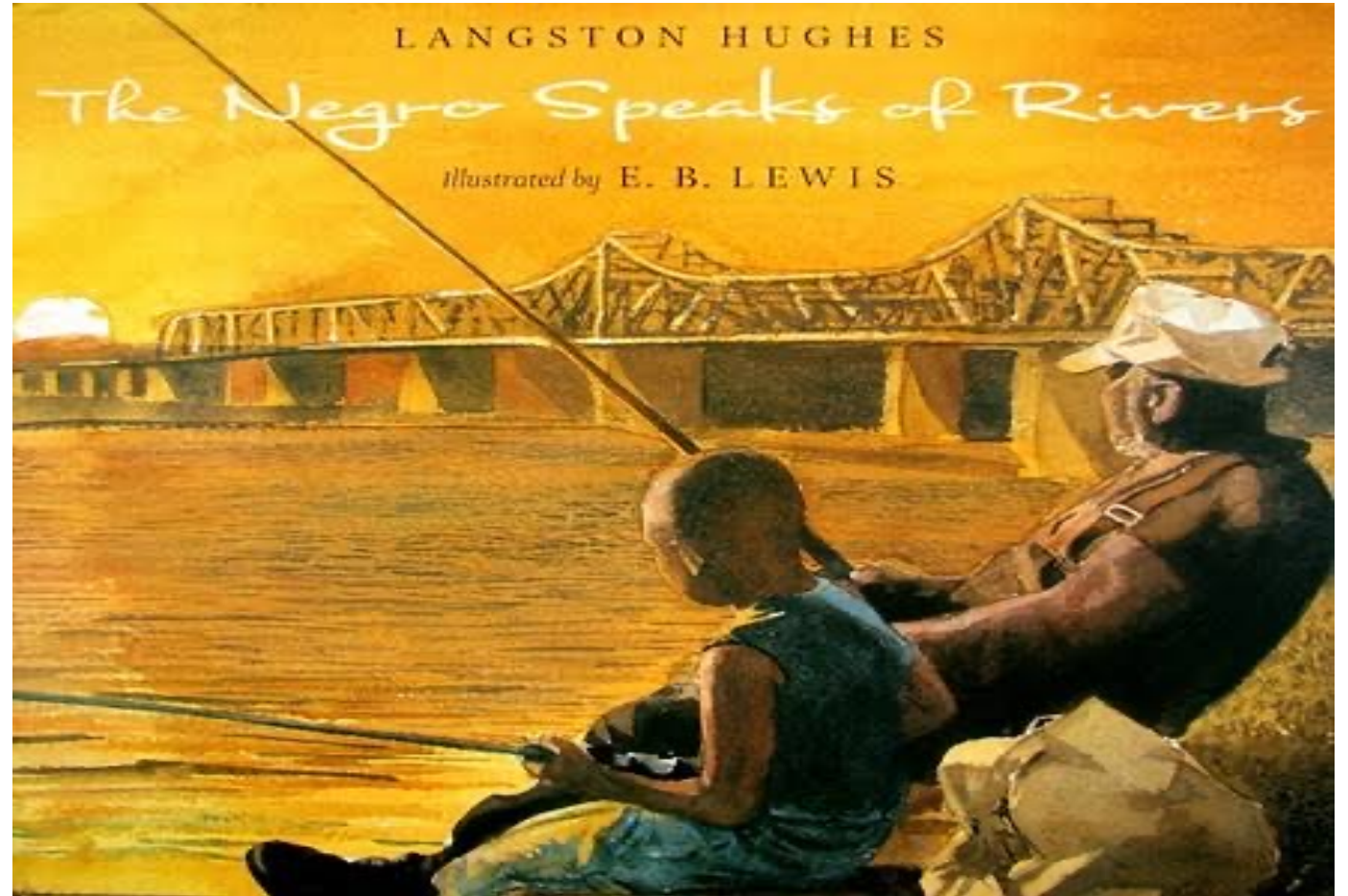
Langston Hughes

By Lonnetta Gains



The Negro Speaks of Rivers

James Mercer Langston Hughes (February 1, 1901 – May 22, 1967) was an American poet, social activist, novelist, playwright, and columnist from Joplin, Missouri. One of the earliest innovators of the literary art form called jazz poetry, Hughes is best known as a leader of the Harlem Renaissance .



Jan Matzeliger

Rev. Robin G. White

Jan Matzeliger was born in Surinam to a Dutch father and Surinamese mother. He showed an early aptitude for working with machinery and began working in machine shops supervised by his father at the age of 10. At 19 he left home to work on ships and eventually settled in Philadelphia. Despite his skills he found it difficult to find a job because of his dark skin. (cont.)



In 1877 he moved to Lynn, Massachusetts to work in the shoe industry. Shoes at that time were created by hand. A mold called a last was created of stone or wood for each foot. The shoes were then sized and shaped according to the mold. The shoes were then put together in a slow difficult process by "hand lasters. Matzeliger thought he might find a solution to the the backlog the tedious process caused. After several attempts he successfully created the shoe lasting machine which could create shoes faster, more economically and more affordable to the consumer. He received patent 274,207 on March 20, 1883 first a machine which produced 700 shoes per day - 10 times the amount produced in shops by hand. The Consolidated Lasting Machine Company was formed to manufacture the devices with Matzeliger receiving a large amount of stock in the organization. The increased shoe production due to the shoe lasting machine meant employment for more unskilled workers, and the proliferation of high quality low cost shoes on the market. Sadly, Matzeliger's enjoyment of his success was short lived. He contracted tuberculosis in 1886 and died on August 24, 1889 at the age of 37 in Lynn. In 1991 the United States Post Office issued a Black Heritage stamp in his honor.



Negro League Baseball in Black History and America's History

By Sam Aldrich

After the Civil War in 1865, baseball's popularity increased dramatically as an amateur sport played by all-white and all-black teams as well as some integrated teams.

On December 11, 1868, black baseball players were barred from participation by the National Association of Baseball Players voting unanimously to forbid any club composed of one player of color from participating.

By 1900 no black players were in professional baseball in the U.S. which was governed NABP.

This resulted in black baseball players forming and playing on their own all-black teams.

In 1920 Rube Foster known as "Father of black baseball" formed the first black league.

In 1923, Ed Bolden formed the Eastern Colored League the two leagues thrived for several years.

In 1933, the new Negro National League was founded and the Negro American League was chartered in 1937.





Negro League Baseball in Black History and America's History

The two formed leagues prospered until the color line was broken in 1947, after World War II reintegration, signing of Jackie Robinson by the Brooklyn Dodgers (New York).

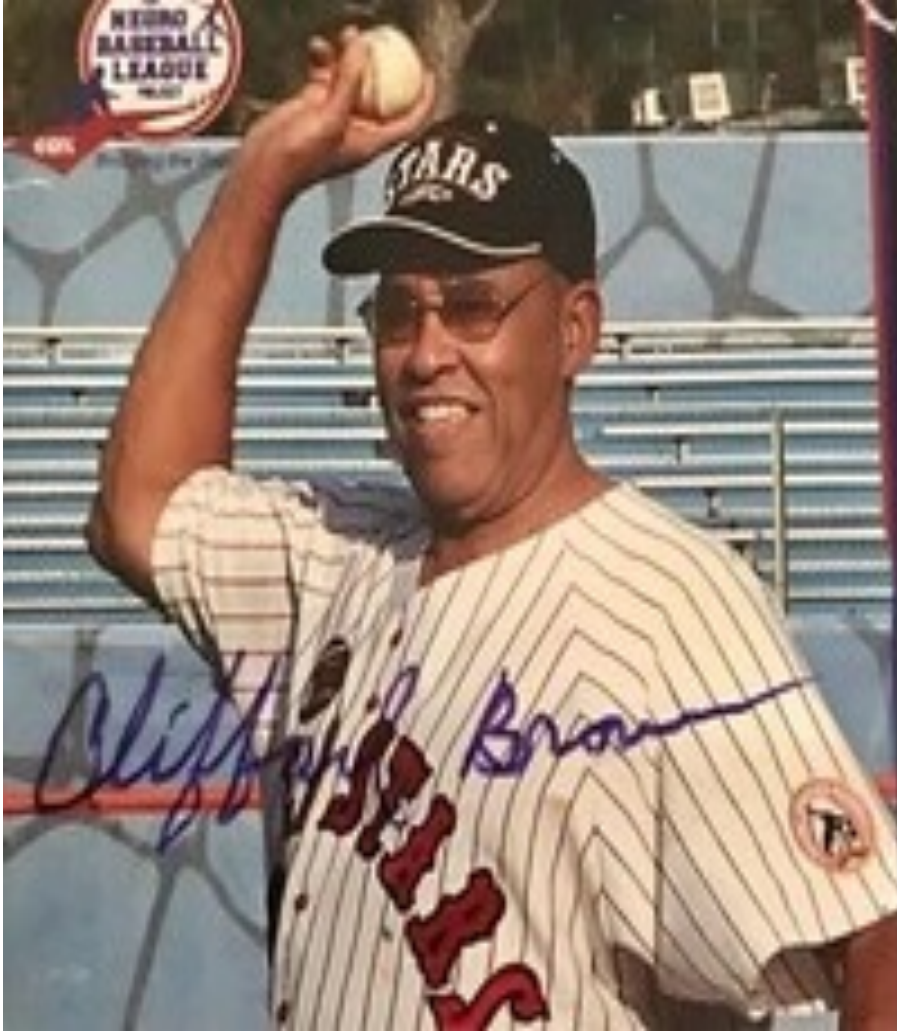
At their height the Negro Baseball Leagues held World Series and all-star games with huge attendance.

The Negro Baseball Leagues provided African Americans their own American pastime.

Negro League baseball was so popular that Black Churches would move their Sunday service time back an hour so fans could attend the games.

In Kansas City Monarch fans left church, “Dressed to the Nines,” headed straight to the ballpark to see their beloved Monarchs play.

Negro Leagues Baseball Museum was established in Kansas City, MO



Negro League Baseball Player Clifford “Quack” Brown
December 9, 1930 – January 28, 2024

Played for the Philadelphia Stars

[League](#): Independent (1933); Negro National League (1934–1948);
[Negro American League](#) (1949–1952)

Mr. Brown was my wife’s father and died during Black History Month this year, 2024.

Chief War Eagle

By Delores Berrien



My great-grandfather (Chief War Eagle), Great-grandmother next to him (Laura Fein), 2 of my mother's siblings (left)

My Mother

By Delores Berrien



Mamie Randolph, George State Representative

Mamie Jackson, born in Queens, New York, in 1918, was the 7th child in a family of 10. Her grandparents raised her, did not graduate high school and rose from doing domestic work as a young girl to becoming a Representative in Georgia State Legislature at age 76.



Rep. Mamie Randolph receiving the award from Coretta Scott King

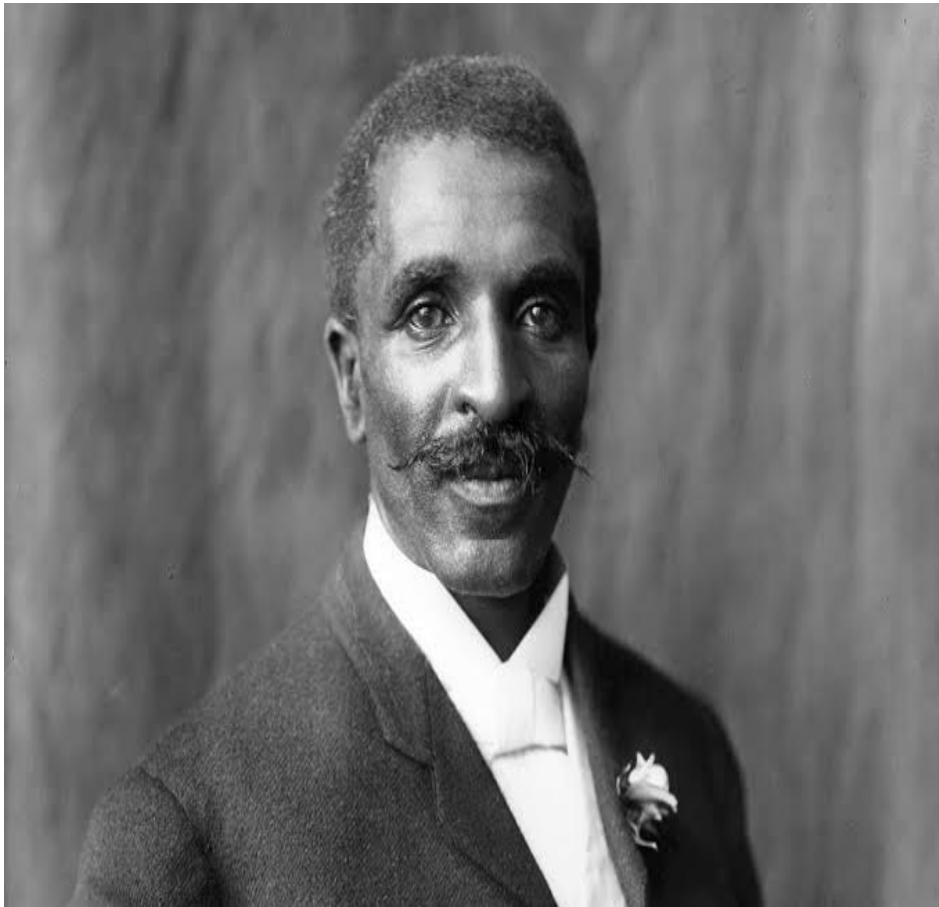
My first-born, Laura Smalls, Andre Leon Talley (her mentor) noted fashion icon and Vogue editor



Michelle Obama wearing Laura's design at the Democratic Convention 2012



Laura Smalls, oldest of 3 children, lost her father at age 16, was gifted with creative artistic ability; she attended Art & Design High School and Parson School of Design in NYC. In addition to her many accomplishments as a fashion Designer she had the privilege of designing outfits for the First Lady, Michelle Obama on many occasions. She got to know the First Lady and was invited to the White House for several festive events.



George Washington Carver

By Jacqui Fitzgerald

George Washington Carver

He was an agricultural scientist and inventor who developed hundreds of products using peanuts, sweet potatoes, and soybeans. Born into slavery before it was outlawed, Carver left home at a young age to pursue education and would eventually earn a master's degree in agricultural science from Iowa State University. He would go on to teach and conduct research at Tuskegee University for decades, and soon after his death, his childhood home would be named a national monument—the first of its kind to honor a Black American.

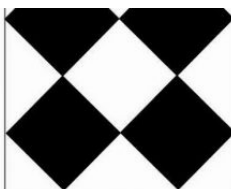
Underground Railroad Quilt Codes

By Jacqui Fitzgerald



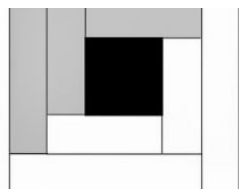
Monkey Wrench

Get ready! Gather the tools you'll need to build shelters, navigate the journey, or defend yourself along the way.



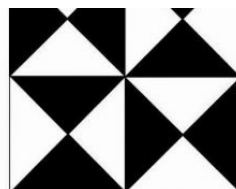
Crossroads

Keep going and travel to the crossroads in Cleveland, Ohio. Nicknamed "Hope", this vibrant Underground Railroad station, was the last stop where slaves would board a boat to Canada.



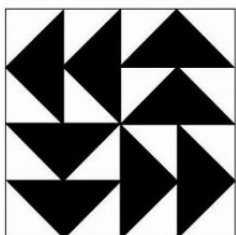
Log Cabin

You've reached a safe house. Congratulations you have found new friends who are friends of slaves.



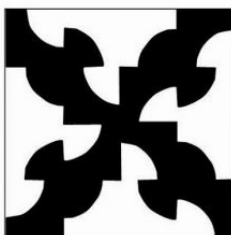
Bow Ties

You're looking pretty tattered. To disguise yourself as a freed slave, you'll need a change of clothes. The Bow Ties quilt block is a code to tell you someone will bring you nicer clothing.



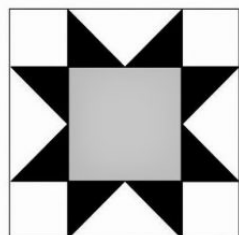
Flying Geese

Follow the migrating geese north to Canada (and freedom).



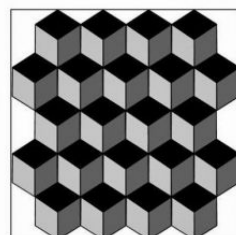
Drunkard's Path

Go back one space! This quilt block is a sign that slave hunters are near. Double back to elude



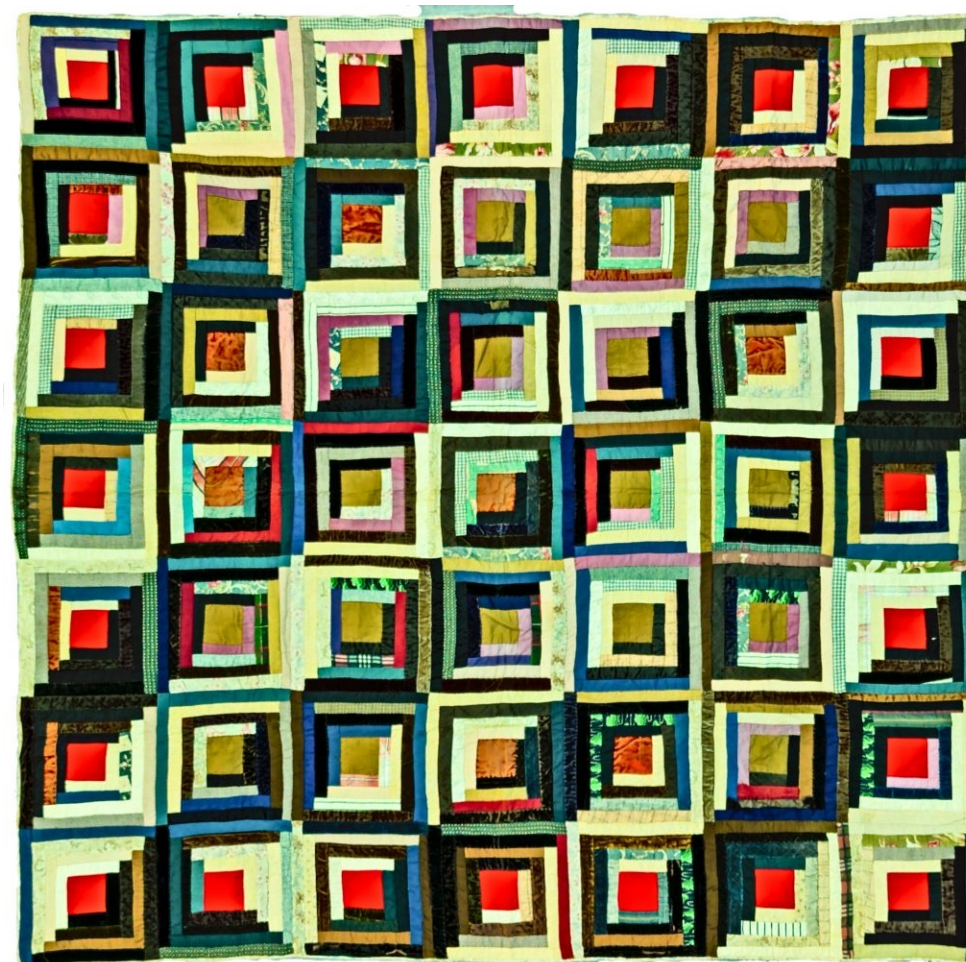
North Star

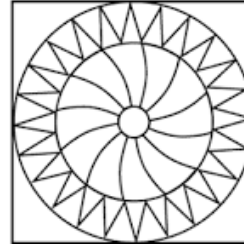
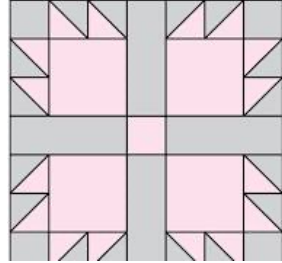
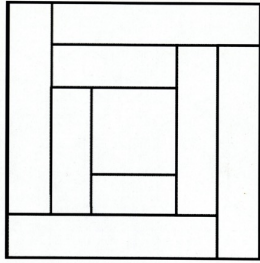
Look to the skies to help you navigate the way. Follow the North Star to Canada.



Tumbling Blocks

The time has come to box up your belongings. Your escape will be happening soon!





These are nsibide
symbol

Encoded language system evident
in many African textiles

