The Unsung Heroes of The Kentucky Derby

Created by Carla Criswell

for

The Chronicle of African Americans in the Horse Industry

www.AfricanAmericanHorseStories.org

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| **Summary** |
| In this module, students will explore and research the impact African Americans had on the Kentucky horse industry. Most importantly, students will focus on the Kentucky Derby by examining information through The Chronicle of African Americans in the Horse Industry. Also, using credible sources, students will present information on the impact the “unsung heroes” had on making the derby an American phenomenon. |

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| **Grade Levels, Subjects, Standards** |
| 6-8  Reading/Language Arts  Kentucky Academic Standards Reading and Writing RI.6.7, RI.7.7, RI.8.7, RI 6.10, RI7.10, RI.8.10, C.6.2, C.7.2, C.8.2, C.6.5, C.7.5, C.8.5, C.6.6, C.7.6, C.8.6  C3 Framework For Social Studies State Standards D2.His.1.6-8, D2.His.3.6-8  Common Core CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.WHST.6-8.9 |

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| **Time Requirements** |
| Two-three weeks (with extension activities) |

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| **Chronicle Theme and Resources** |
| Before Emancipation, Win Hands Down  Research the Collection: Person Profile (Eddie Sweat, Charles Davis, Alonzo Clayton, Oliver Lewis, Issac Burns Murphy, William “Billy” Walker, Garrett Davis Lewis,Gabe Hurd, Issac Lewis, Erskine “Babe” Henderson, Alonzo “Lonnie” Clayton, James “Soup” Perkins, Willie Sims, Jimmy Winkfield )  Research the Collection: Event: Kentucky Derby  Research the Collection: Stories: Notable Partnerships (Edward Dudley Brown, Ansel Williamson) |

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| **Goals** |
| 1. Students will be able to research an African American that made a significant contribution to the Kentucky Derby. 2. Students will be able to use credible sources to collect information about the person’s life and contributions. 3. Students will be able to present information in a creative way to showcase his/her person’s life and accomplishments. 4. Students will be able to use 21st century skills to write a one minute speech and create a display board of information about their person to engage an authentic audience. |

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| **Guiding Question and Key Concepts** |
| 1. In what ways did African Americans contribute to the history and the success of the Kentucky Derby? 2. What impact did African Americans have on the horse industry before and after slavery? 3. How can we acknowledge the “unsung heroes” that history has forgotten? |

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| **Vocabulary** |
| Credibility  Fact  Jockey  Legacy  Opinion  Research  Speech |