

The Last Black King of the Kentucky Derby



A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

Themes: Black History, Sports, Determination

Grade Level: 3rd to 5th grade

Book Brief: This book tells the true story of Jimmy Winkfield, the last Black jockey to win the Kentucky Derby.

Author:

Crystal Hubbard

Illustrator:

Robert McGuire



TIME TO READ!

Before reading: Tell children that this book is about the last Black jockey to win the Kentucky Derby. Do they know what the Kentucky Derby is and what a jockey does? Explain why jockeys are important even though horses are the ones doing all the running.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

A DAY AT THE RACES (AGES 4-12)

Divide kids into teams. Arrange silly relays: running backwards, carrying an egg in a spoon, hopping on one foot, galloping like a horse, etc.

HANDS-ON ART (AGES 4-12)

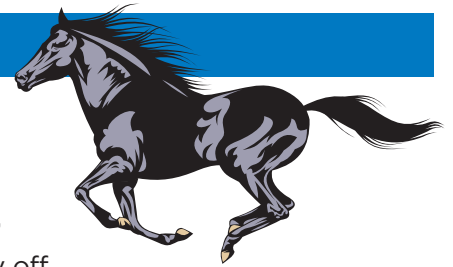
Materials: tempera paint, brush, paper, markers

Have kids paint their palms and then make handprints on the paper. Turn the paper in different directions. What does the handprint look like? Use the markers to turn the handprint into a picture.

COMMUNITY STORY TIME (AGES 5-12)

According to legend, a ship wrecked off the coast of Virginia 300 years ago and a group of horses survived and swam to shore. Today, the descendants

of those horses live wild on Assateague Island. As a group, make up the horses' story. Start the story off with, "It was a dark and stormy night at sea," and let each child have a turn to say what happens next. Write the story down on the board or a large sheet of paper as you go. When you've finished, have the kids draw pictures to illustrate the story.



ALL HANDS (AGES 6-12)

A race horse is about 16 hands (64 inches) tall. (A hand is 4 inches.) Are any objects in your center 16 hands tall or long? Have kids measure items around the center in hands. Keep track of measurements on a group chart or poster.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

Catching the Moon: The Story of a Young Girl's Baseball Dream (2010),
Game, Set, Match, Champion Arthur Ashe (2010).

TECHNOLOGY LINK FOR KIDS

www.rif.org/kids



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