# The Last Black King of the Kentucky Derby

## A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

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, build background:** Find out what your child knows about the Kentucky Derby. What does a jockey do?

#### While reading, pay attention

**to the pictures:** Notice how small Jimmy looks next to his horse. An average race horse is 16 *hands* (64 inches) high. How tall do you think Jimmy was?

#### After reading, ask questions:

- Why did Jimmy want to be a jockey?
- What do you want to be?
- How did Jimmy's hero inspire him? Who inspires you?

The LAST BLACK KING

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- How did Jimmy overcome his challenges?
  What would you have done?
- Why do you think there are so few Black jockeys?
- Have your child retell the story in their own words.

## **RELATED ACTIVITIES**

## KENTUCKY DERBY PIE

Ingredients: 1 pie crust,  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. melted butter, 2 eggs, 1 c. sugar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. flour, 1 tsp. vanilla,  $\frac{3}{4}$  c. chocolate chips,  $\frac{3}{4}$  c. chopped pecans or walnuts

Combine all ingredients and mix well. Pour mixture into unbaked pie crust. Bake at 350° for about 45 minutes. Serve with whipped cream or ice cream. Enjoy!

## OUT AND ABOUT

Hold your own Kentucky Derby! Set up races in your neighborhood or with your family. Make the races fun—try running backwards or carrying an egg in a spoon. You could also gallop like a horse, waddle like

# **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).

a duck, hop like a bunny, etc. Be creative! Form teams and have relay races. Give your teams funny names like race horses have.

## HANDS-ON ART

Materials: non-toxic paint, brush, paper, markers

- 1. Have your child paint their palm and then make a handprint (or handprints) on the paper.
- 2. Turn the paper in different directions. What does the handprint look like?
- 3. Let your child use markers to turn the handprint into a picture. How many different pictures can you make out of a single handprint?



Determination Author Crystal