

February is Black History Month. Let's celebrate with these activities picked just for you!

Inventions: Many of the items we take for granted today were invented by African-Americans who were not all given credit for their discoveries. Allow your child to toy with their own inventions by using recyclable materials—milk jugs, cardboard boxes, paper towel rolls, etc. to create new gadgets to use around your house (or at least have a lot of fun trying to do so!)

Red Light, Green Light: One of the most famous inventions was the traffic light, created by Garret Morgan. It is easy to play this game with your child. Cut out a red, yellow, and green circle. Go outside and space far apart from your child. When you hold up a green circle, your child can run to you as fast as possible. When you hold up a yellow circle, your child will slow their run down and when you hold up a red circle, they must stop! If they do not stop on red, they must go back to where they started and begin the game again!

Peanut, Peanut Butter... Jelly! First you take the peanut and you smash 'em, you smash 'em! Then you take the grapes and you squish 'em, you squish 'em! You probably remember this tune from your own childhood. Sing this song while making a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for lunch. This would also be a great time to talk about George Washington Carver, the African-American scientist who discovered many products made out of peanuts!

Egg-citing Discovery! Take two eggs, one white and one colored. Talk to your children about the outside of the eggs and how they are different colors. Ask them if they think the eggs are different on the inside or if they taste differently. Then, crack both eggs to show that their insides are the same and scramble each egg individually. After your child tastes each egg, discuss how they not only looked the same on the inside but they also taste the same. Take this concrete example to illustrate that people are just like the eggs they are eating. Even if their color is different, they are the same on the inside!