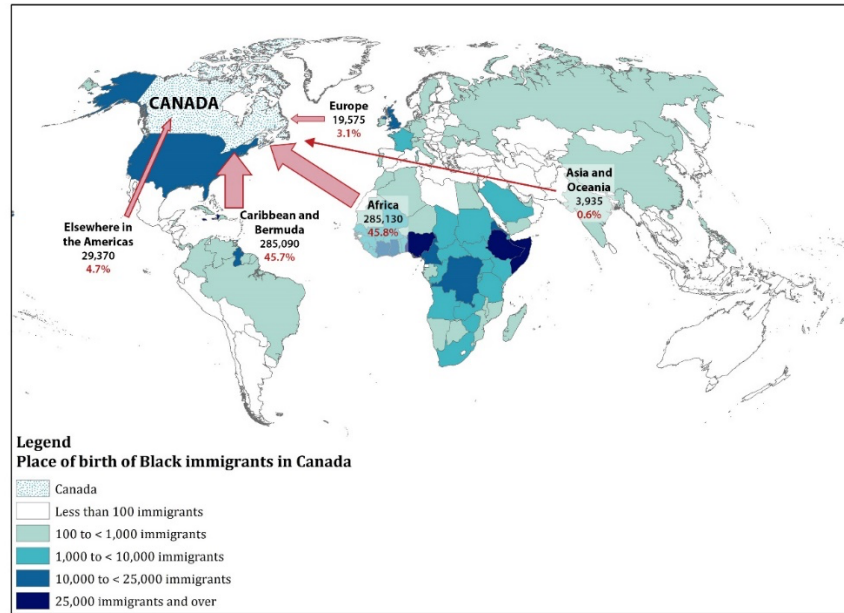


An Introduction to The Canadian Black Community

Countries of Origin:

The Black community is comprised of individuals who have migrated from various countries across Africa and the Caribbean. Here are some key countries from which members of the community have migrated:



- Jamaica: Known for its vibrant culture and music, Jamaican immigrants have made significant contributions to Canada's multicultural fabric.
- Haiti: Haitian immigrants bring a rich heritage of art, music, and literature to Canada. They have greatly influenced the cultural landscape.
- Nigeria: Nigerians contribute to Canada's diverse population, bringing with them their unique languages, traditions, and professional expertise.
- Ghana: Ghanaians in Canada often celebrate their rich cultural heritage through festivals, music, and traditional practices.
- Somalia: Somali immigrants have made important contributions to Canada's cultural mosaic, particularly in areas such as business and education.
- Ethiopia: Ethiopian immigrants bring a wealth of cultural practices, including traditional music, dance, and religious traditions.
- Trinidad and Tobago: Known for its vibrant Carnival celebrations, Trinidadians and Tobagonians contribute to Canada's multicultural society.
- Barbados: Barbadians bring their distinctive traditions, including calypso music and a strong literary heritage, to the Canadian cultural landscape.
- Democratic Republic of Congo: Congolese immigrants enrich Canada's cultural diversity through their music, dance, and cuisine.
- Kenya: Kenyan immigrants contribute to Canada's multicultural fabric, bringing their languages, art, and vibrant traditions.

- South Africa: South African immigrants bring diverse cultural practices, languages, and traditions to Canada.
- Guyana: Guyanese immigrants bring their unique blend of Caribbean and South American culture, including music, cuisine, and traditions.
- The Bahamas: Bahamian immigrants bring their island culture and traditions, including Junkanoo festivals, to the Canadian cultural landscape.
- Zimbabwe: Zimbabwean immigrants add to Canada's diverse population with their languages, arts, and cultural practices.
- Saint Lucia: Saint Lucian immigrants contribute their vibrant Creole culture, music, and cuisine to Canada's diverse society.
- Uganda: Ugandan immigrants bring their unique languages, arts, and cultural expressions, enriching Canada's cultural mosaic.

Important Days Celebrated or Observed:

The Black community celebrates and observes various important days throughout the year. Here are some notable occasions:



- **Black History Month (February):** A month-long celebration of Black history, achievements, and contributions to Canadian society.
- **Emancipation Day (August 1):** Commemorates the abolition of slavery in the British Empire and highlights the ongoing struggle for freedom and equality.
- **Juneteenth (June 19):** Celebrated primarily in the United States, Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African Americans and serves as a reminder of the ongoing fight against racial injustice.
- **Kwanzaa (December 26 to January 1):** A week-long celebration of African culture, principles, and heritage, focusing on unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith.
- **Caribana (Aug 3rd- Aug 7th, 2023):** Caribana is a vibrant and culturally rich festival celebrated annually in Toronto, Canada. It originated in 1967 as a celebration of Caribbean culture and has since become one of the largest Caribbean carnivals in North America.

Religions Observed:






The Black community encompasses diverse religious beliefs and practices. Here are some religions commonly observed within the community:




- Christianity: Many individuals in the Black community practice various Christian denominations, such as Baptist, Pentecostal, Anglican, and Catholic.

- Islam: Individuals of African descent who follow the teachings of Islam contribute to the religious diversity within the community.
- Rastafari: Originating in Jamaica, Rastafari is a religious movement that centers around the worship of Haile Selassie I, the former Emperor of Ethiopia.
- African Traditional Religions: Some individuals may follow traditional African spiritual beliefs and practices, which vary based on specific ethnic groups and regions.

Food:

Black or Afro-Canadian cuisine is a fusion of flavors and culinary traditions from different African and Caribbean countries. Here are some popular dishes:

	Jerk chicken	A flavorful and spicy grilled chicken dish associated with Jamaican cuisine.
	Jollof rice	A one-pot rice dish cooked with tomatoes, spices, and various meats or vegetables, commonly enjoyed in West Africa.
	Ackee and saltfish	The national dish of Jamaica, made with salted codfish and ackee fruit, served with plantains and other side dishes.
	Plantains	A versatile fruit often served as a side dish or dessert, commonly found in African and Caribbean cuisines. It can be fried, boiled, or baked.
	Suya	A popular West African street food made of seasoned skewered meat, usually beef, chicken, or goat, grilled over an open flame.

	Fufu	A staple dish in many West African countries, made from pounded starchy ingredients like cassava, plantains, or yams, and often served with soups or stews.
	Callaloo	A leafy green vegetable dish that originated in West Africa, often cooked with ingredients like okra, crab, or salted meats.
	Roti	A flatbread originating from the Indian subcontinent but widely consumed in Caribbean countries, served with various curries and fillings.

Traditional Attire:

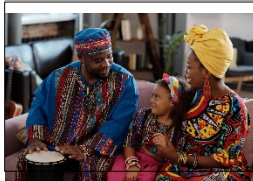
Black or Afro-Canadian traditional attire varies depending on the specific culture and country of origin. Here are a few examples:



Dashiki: A loose-fitting, brightly colored shirt or tunic often worn by both men and women, originating from West Africa.



Kente cloth: A vibrant and intricately woven fabric associated with Ghanaian culture, often used to make clothing, accessories, and ceremonial attire.



Boubou: A flowing robe-like garment worn in many African countries, featuring bold patterns and designs, and often made of colorful fabrics.



Ankara/African print clothing: Vibrant and bold-patterned fabrics used to create various styles of dresses, skirts, shirts, and accessories, popular across many African countries.

Basic Words in Different Black Community Languages:


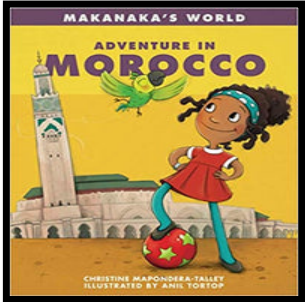
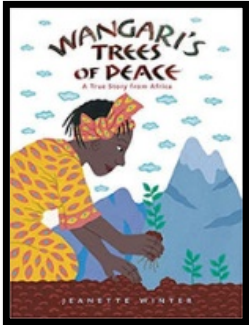


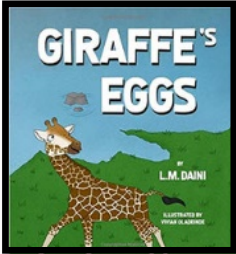

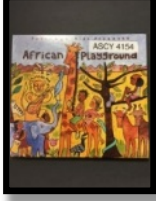
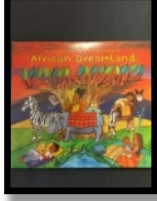
Here are a few more basic words and phrases in different languages spoken within the Black community:

- Jamaican Patois:
 - Greetings: "Wa gwaan" (What's going on?), "Mi deh yah" (I'm here).
 - Thank you: "Tank yuh" or "Thanks."
- Yoruba (Nigeria):
 - Greetings: "Bawo ni" (How are you?), "E karo" (Good morning).
 - Thank you: "E se" or "O se."
- Haitian Creole:
 - Greetings: "Bonjou" (Good day), "Kijan ou ye?" (How are you?).
 - Thank you: "Mèsi" or "Orevwa."
- Swahili (East Africa):
 - Greetings: "Jambo" (Hello), "Habari" (How are you?).
 - Thank you: "Asante" or "Asante sana."
- Twi (Ghana):
 - Greetings: "Afehyia pa" (Good morning), "Maakyee" (Good afternoon).
 - Thank you: "Medaase" or "Da yie."
- Patois (Trinidad and Tobago):
 - Greetings: "Wha gwan" (What's going on?), "How yuh stayin'" (How are you?).
 - Thank you: "Tank yuh" or "Thanks."

- Lingala (Democratic Republic of Congo):
 - Greetings: "Mbote" (Hello), "Mbote na yo" (How are you?).
 - Thank you: "Mboté" or "Ezali malamu."
- Amharic (Ethiopia):
 - Greetings: "Selam" (Hello), "Dehna neh?" (How are you?).
 - Thank you: "Ameseginalehu" or "Thank you."
- Pidgin English (Nigeria):
 - Greetings: "How you dey?" (How are you?), "Wetin dey happen?" (What's happening?).
 - Thank you: "Thank you" or "I appreciate."
- Creole (Barbados):
 - Greetings: "Hello" or "Howdyadoo?" (How do you do?).
 - Thank you: "Thank you" or "Tank yuh."
- Shona (Zimbabwe):
 - Greetings: "Wakadini zvako?" (How are you?), "Hesi" or "Mhoros" (Hello).
 - Thank you: "Maita Basa" or "Waita zvako."

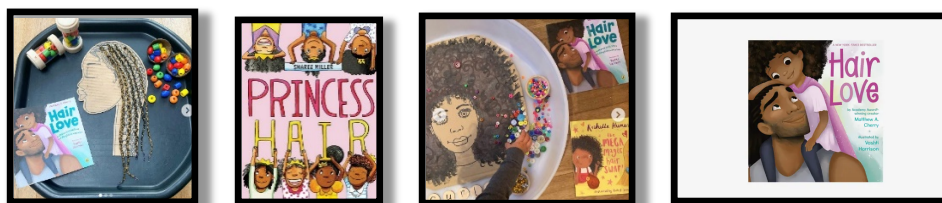
It's important to note that these are just a few basic words and phrases in different languages. Languages and dialects within the Black community are diverse and varied. For more comprehensive language guidance, it's recommended to consult native speakers and additional resources that focus on specific languages and cultures within the community.

Book	Book Description	Optional Provocation Ideas
	<p><u>My First Book of Shona And Ndebele Words</u></p> <p><i>My First Book of Shona And Ndebele Words</i> is one of the best African children's story books to introduce your kids to Shona and Ndebele, Zimbabwe's two main native languages. Recommended Age: All ages</p>	<p>Add word cards in literacy/art area.</p> <p>Add word cards to sand tray and trace.</p> <p>Connect with children and their language with all the items mentioned in the book. Make a word list.</p>
	<p><u>Makanaka's World: Adventure in Morocco</u></p> <p><i>Makanaka's World: Adventure in Morocco</i> takes children on an adventure to Morocco. Makanaka gets invited to a soccer game by her friend Nadia in Morocco. Makanaka and Fari the parrot goes to Casablanca. But when they arrive, they discover that someone has taken Nadia's team's soccer ball. Recommended Age: 5 - 8 years</p>	<p>Camel books – Inquiry, clipboards, paper, picture books.</p> <p>Add camels to sand area, make sandcastles.</p> <p>Tea tasting</p> <p>Morocco country and Casablanca pictures to block area.</p>
	<p><u>Wangari's Trees of Peace</u></p> <p><i>Wangari's Trees of Peace</i> tells of the story of Wangari a young girl growing up in Kenya. She was surrounded by trees, but after leaving Kenya for a period, she is distraught to come back home to forests without trees. Recommended Ages: 4-7 years.</p>	<p>Planting inquiry provocation.</p> <p>Art: Add plants and paint or art materials to table.</p> <p>Planting books in book area.</p>
	<p><u>Idia of the Benin Kingdom</u></p> <p><i>Idia of the Benin Kingdom</i> is an African folklore about Queen Idia of the ancient Kingdom of Benin. The young heroine sees her future in a dream and works her way to becoming one of the most loved, praised, and successful queens of the African Kingdom of Benin. Recommended Ages: 4 - 12 years</p>	<p>Make your own mask using recycled materials, newspapers, paint, playdough, or loose parts.</p> <p>Explore 54 countries in Africa flags.</p>

	<p><u>Giraffe's Eggs</u></p> <p><i>Giraffe's Eggs</i> is about a giraffe that becomes very jealous, when her best friend the Ox pecker, shows her colourful eggs. The giraffe decides to do anything it takes, to get her own eggs. Ages: 3-6 years.</p>	<p>I Wonder – About Giraffe's.</p> <p>Add Giraffe's and other animals to sensory bin, outdoor play, painting.</p>
	<p><i>Textures</i> is about all the textures around us. This innovative board book will take your kids on an African safari as they learn about safari animals. Recommend Ages: 2-4 years.</p>	<p>Soft, rough, bumpy, and smooth textures around the class.</p> <p>Safari animals and their textures - Sensory, loose parts, art animals pattern paper.</p>
ASYC Hamilton - African Culture – Music		
 <p>African Playground CD Hamilton, music resource number 4154 Inquire About This Resource</p>	 <p>African Dreamland CD Hamilton, music resource number 0160 Inquire About This Resource</p>	<p>Provocation Ideas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outdoor exploration - During indoor inquiry - Nap time

The expression of beauty through hairstyles has been a long-standing signature of Black culture. Black culture uses their hairstyles as a personal expression of who they are and to show the evolution of Black culture over time, an evolution which has brought us to a time when more and more Black community culture are embracing the natural beauty of their own hair.

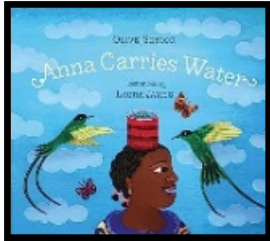

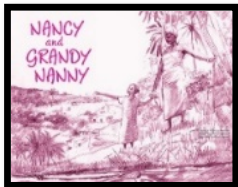
Headdresses and hairstyles indicated status and identities across Africa, hairstyles could indicate a person's family background, tribe, and social status.



Provocation and Programming Ideas:

- Measure hair activity with yarn and cubic blocks
- Design hair styles with beads and yarn
- Pictures of hairstyles out on a table with art materials.
- Add word cards to describe hair textures.

Book	Book Description	Optional Provocation Ideas
	<p><i>Your Name Is a Song</i> is about a young girl who struggles with correcting people when they don't say her name the right way, and how she overcomes her fears and learns to appreciate the music in her name.</p>	<p>Name cards</p> <p>Creating songs for all the children using their names.</p>
	<p>This book is filled with all the things little brown boys LOVE. From dinosaurs to gardening there are no limits to what little brown boys can enjoy. <i>Brown Boy Joy</i> is an empowering story filled with affirmations.</p>	<p>Writing a list of what children enjoy, Extension: Survey familiarity.</p> <p>Write personal and/or group affirmations.</p> <p>"I Can...", "I am..."</p>
	<p>Mae's determination, curiosity, and intelligence, combined with her parent's encouragement, helped her earn a place at NASA. Eventually, Mae becomes the first African American woman to travel in space.</p>	<p>Space inquiry</p> <p>Space books, making rockets out of recycled materials.</p>
	<p>A girl named Sulwe with skin the color of midnight. She dreams of having lighter skin to look like her mother, sister, and schoolmates. This story that teaches kids to embrace their unique, natural beauty.</p>	<p>Making faces: Mirrors, loose parts</p> <p>I feel sentences.</p> <p>Drawing faces, art materials, different colours of paper available. Different playdough resembles skin colour and have blank face mats.</p>
	<p>This lyrical picture book explores and celebrates diversity in a creative and fun way.</p>	<p>Sensory bin: different colour of materials that resemble skin colour. Beans, small paper pieces, rice, pasta.</p> <p>Put out paint colours and paper on the art table.</p>






	<p>Anna fetches water from the spring every day, but she can't carry it on her head like her older brothers and sisters can. This charming, poetic story shows young readers the power of determination, as Anna overcomes her fear to achieve her goal.</p>	<p>Talk about special talents with the group.</p> <p>Bring in personal pictures of life experiences that reflect special talents children have had or accomplished.</p>
	<p>The books Shaggy Parrot and the Reggae Band encourage children to protect the environment with the aid of vivid illustrations and music.</p>	<p>Recycled provocations, bring in items to recreate beautiful junk.</p>
	<p>This historical children's book is loosely based on the life of Nanny, Jamaica's only national heroine. There she meets the Nanny of the Maroons, who teaches her lessons of courage and faith.</p>	<p>Affirmations, make your own and class affirmations together.</p>

Adinkra Symbols and Meanings

Adinkra are Ghanaian symbols from the Akan people of Ghana, precisely the Bono community. Each sign has a spiritual significance and embodies the aesthetic values and the way of life of the people of the kingdom of Gyaaman.

Provocation and Programming Ideas:

- Laminate (Copy Attached)
- Loose Parts (stones, beads (plastic or wood), dry beans, add mirrors or trays.
- Use as playdough mats.
- Art provocation – Paint, crayon and/or markers
- Paint symbols on rocks
- Tray with sand – trace symbol in sand
- Add to other centres to extend provocation (ex. home area)

<p>DWENNIMMEN "ram's horns" symbol of humility together with strength</p>		<p>ADINKRAHENE "Chief of the adinkra symbols" symbol of greatness, charisma and leader</p>	
<p>Agyindawuru – Loyalty, vigilance, and accountability</p>		<p>Fawohodie Independence comes with its responsibilities.</p>	
<p>Ananse Ntontan represents creativity, the complexities of life, and wisdom</p>		<p>Aban A symbol of strength, seat of power, and authority,</p>	