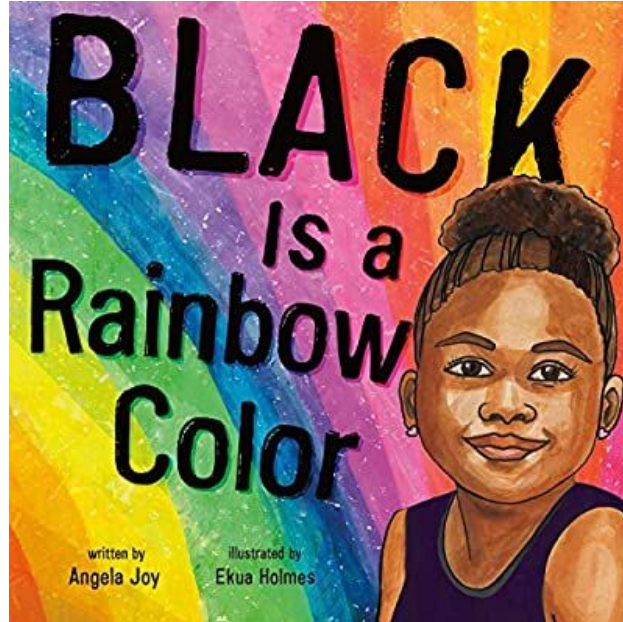


Black is a Rainbow Color

Focus Question: How is Black both a color and a culture?

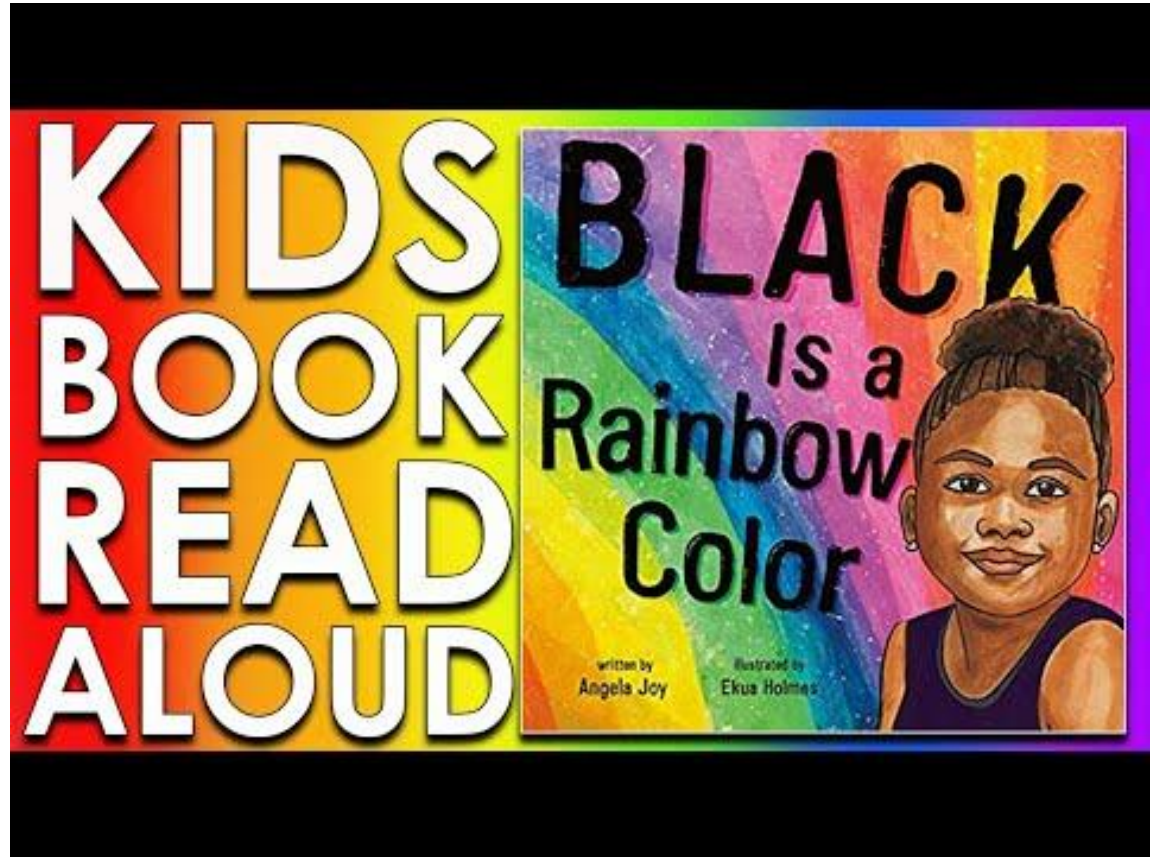
Lesson Question: How have Black activists fought for freedom?



Created by Jenna Rentz

Read *Black is a Rainbow Color*

by [Angela Joy](#)

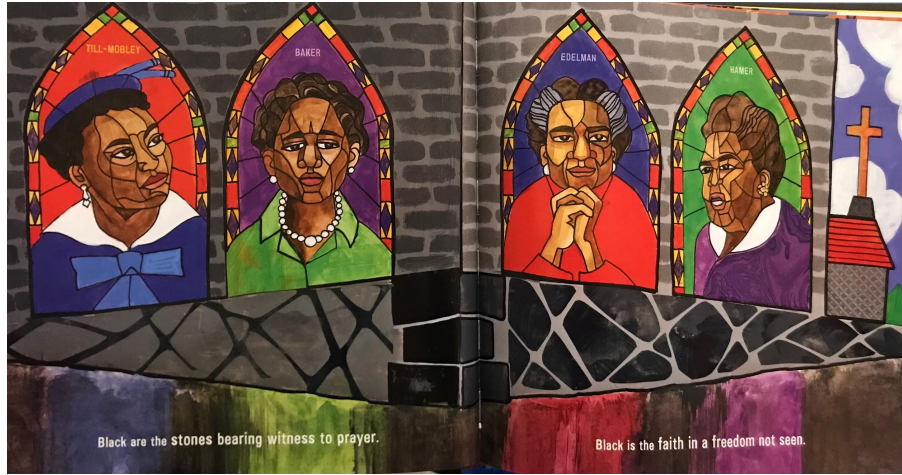


Color and Culture

- In the book *Black is a Rainbow Color*, author Angela Joy writes “Black is a color. Black is a culture.”
- **Culture** is how people speak, dress, celebrate, and live
- History is an important part of **culture**.
- Many people know about the work of Dr. Martin Luther King. Today we will learn about four Black women who also fought for **freedom**.



Female Activists who Fought for Freedom



- Dr. Martin Luther King, was a leader in the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s.
- Mamie Till-Mobley, Ella Baker, Marian Wright Edelman, and Fannie Lou Hamer were also leaders in the Civil Rights Movement.

What do you notice about this picture?

Mamie Till-Mobley

- Mamie Till-Mobley was an activist born in 1921.
- Her son **Emmett Till** was 14 when he was killed by two white men in 1955 because he was Black.
- Mamie Till-Mobley was a teacher and helped students learn about Black culture.
- She also spoke out against the racism and violence that Black people have experienced in America.

How did Mamie Till-Mobley fight for freedom?

Mamie Till-Mobley



Emmett Till, Mamie's son

Ella Baker



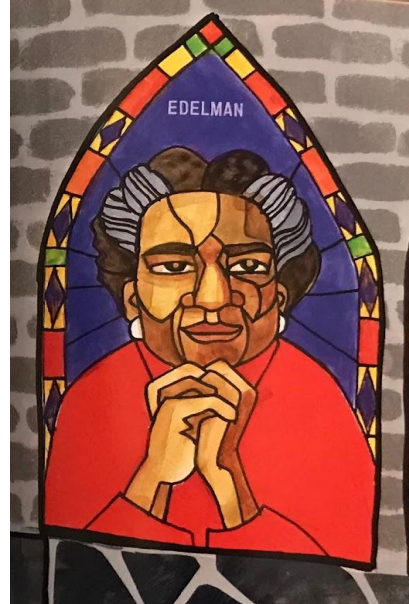
- Ella Baker was born in 1903 and is called the Mother of the Civil Rights Movement.
- She worked for over 50 years organizing and helping Black people to protest for equal rights.
- She believed in “power to the people.” *What do you think that means?*

How did Ella Baker fight for freedom?

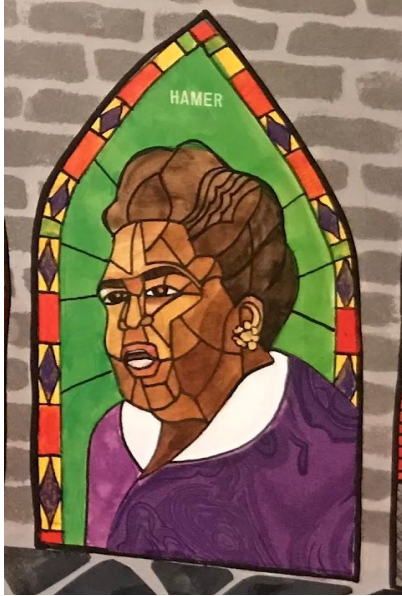
Marian Wright Edelman

- Marian Wright Edelman was an activist born in 1939.
- She fought for children's rights.
- She fought for early childhood education.
- She founded the Children Defense Fund.

How did Marian Wright Edelman fight for freedom?



Fannie Lou Hamer



- Fannie Lou Hamer was an activist born in 1917.
- She helped thousands of Black people register to vote .
- Fannie Lou Hamer organized Black women and men to protest against unfair laws.
- She bought land to give jobs to Black farmers.

How did Fannie Lou Hamer fight for freedom?

“Ella’s Song” by Sweet Honey in the Rock



- This is “[Ella’s Song](#).”
- Dr. Bernice Johnson Reagon used words from Ella Baker’s speeches and made them into this song.
- One of the lyrics is, “We who believe in freedom cannot rest until it comes.”

What does it mean to believe in freedom?

Questions

1. There are many ways to fight for freedom. Write the name of one activist below and one way they fought for freedom.

_____ fought for freedom by _____.

2. What is one way you are interested in fighting for freedom? You can use the list or think of your own.

I want to fight for freedom by _____.

How Activists Fight for Freedom

- Marching and protesting
- Making speeches
- Organizing people
- Buying land
- Creating programs
- Registering people to vote
- Teaching children

Resources

- [Black is a Color and a Culture](#) (lesson)
- [Morning Memo Template](#)