

**BECAUSE
OF THEM
WE CAN**

BOX

JUST FOR KIDS

BECAUSE OF THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE

AGES 9 - 12

BOTWC MINIS POSING AS
ZORA NEALE HURSTON AND LANGSTON HUGHES



**HARLEM
RENAISSANCE**

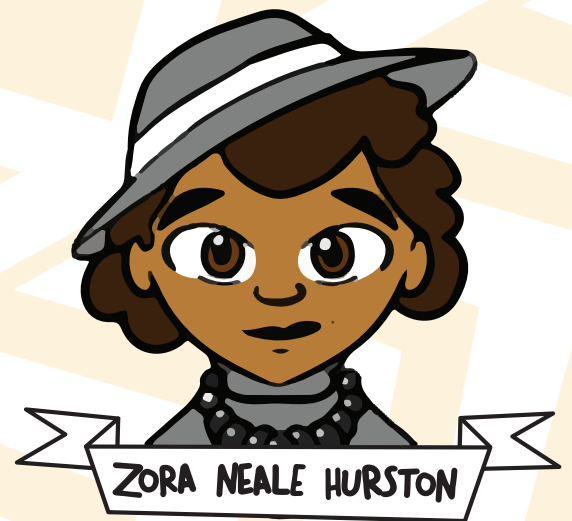
THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE

The Harlem Renaissance was a great time for African American art.

Literature, music, paintings, sculptures, poems, films, and fashion all played a great part.

It was in some ways a result of the **great migration**, Where many Black people fled to northern parts of the nation.

It started around the end of World War I, all the way until World War II, In Harlem, New York, many other cities, and even the Caribbean and Paris too.



It was a time that celebrated Black expression, Discussed the Black experience and the need for **progression**.

There were many other topics like city life, Black southern life, and race, For so many Black creatives it was the first time they felt like they had their own place.

It was a time where Black voices were uplifted, And some of the stories about who we were, were shifted.

There were still many problems that happened during that time, But it created **opportunities** for Black people to climb.

It was a time marked greatly by Black pride, A time where great artists were able to make **strides**. There were many famous people like Zora Neale Hurston, Augusta Savage, Jacob Lawrence, and Langston Hughes.

Who created literature and art, paving the way for you.

By Alexis Barnes



GLOSSARY

The Great Migration:

The movement of six million Black people from rural areas of the Southern States of the United States to urban areas in the Northern States between 1916 to 1970.

Progression: The process of developing over a period of time.

Opportunities: An amount of time or a situation in which something can be done.

Strides: To walk with very long steps.

Theme: The main subject that is being discussed or described in a piece of work.

Collage: a piece of art made by sticking various different materials such as photographs and pieces of paper or fabric on to a backing.

READ & RESPOND



1. What was the Harlem Renaissance and who was involved?

2. What types of art forms were a part of the Harlem Renaissance?

3. Why did the Harlem Renaissance occur?

4. What was the impact of the Harlem Renaissance?

"DREAMS"

DIRECTIONS: Now it's your turn to write your own poem! Read the Poem "Dreams" by Langston Hughes first, to gather ideas about the topic, structure, and theme. Follow the steps below to get some ideas for how to write your poem.

STEP 1: Read the Langston Hughes poem Dreams. As you read, write anything that you notice or wonder, in the notes section.

Dreams

BY LANGSTON HUGHES

Hold fast to dreams
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird
That cannot fly.

Hold fast to dreams
For when dreams go
Life is a barren field
Frozen with snow.

NOTES

STEP 2: Answer the questions about the poem, below. Brainstorm ideas about your own poem, in the second column. If you have other ideas, be sure to write them down.

LANGSTON HUGHES POEM	YOUR POEM	THINKING SPACE
What is the poem about?	What is your poem about?	If you don't know, write down a list of things that interest you.
How does the poem make you feel?	How do you want people to feel when they read your poem?	What words, movements, or concepts are often used associated with that feeling? EX: Hearts is a good word to use if you want people to feel love
What image do you see in your head when reading this poem?	What image do you want people to see when reading your poem?	EX: When I picture a "beach" I think of sand and water . Your turn: When I see a _____ I think of _____
What do you think this poem means?	What do you want readers to learn in your poem?	



WRITE A POEM!

STEP 3: Write your poem. Use one word from your brainstorm, to help you and remember you don't have to rhyme! If you don't want to rhyme, write in the section below. If you want to add rhyme, continue using the following steps.

STEP 4: Write your poem with rhyme. Write your 1st line and then brainstorm some rhyming words.

Example: Dreams are our hearts' greatest **love**.

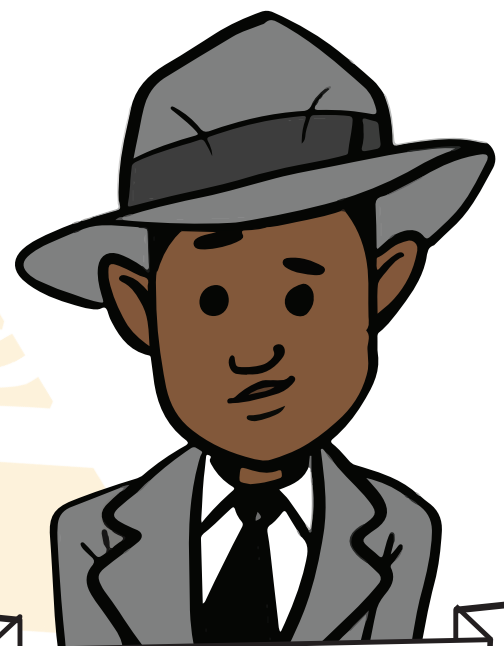
Love is the last word in the line, so we want to think of words that rhyme with love. Here are a few.

Above Dove Shove

Now, I want to have another line that uses a word that rhymes with love.

Dreams are our hearts' greatest **love**.
They are gifts that come from **above**.

STEP 5: Keep it going until you finish your poem!



LANGSTON HUGHES

MAKE SOME ART

DIRECTIONS: There were many works of art that were inspired by the Harlem Renaissance. Paintings and other forms of art are ways to express a topic or theme, just like poetry.

Jacob Lawrence was a Black painter who chose a **theme** of migration and created the *The Migration Series*, originally titled *The Migration of the Negro*. His paintings showcased his life and the experiences of other Black people and he wanted people to see themselves in his work.

In the paint-by-numbers activity in your #BOTWCBox you painted a Jacob Lawrence piece. Now, you will get to create another art form called a **collage**.

A collage is a piece of art, made by sticking various different materials such as photographs and pieces of paper or fabric on to a backing.. Cut out old pictures from books or magazines (ask an adult before you cut!) and paste on a piece of paper.



On the left is an example of one we created using the theme of dreams. You can use the same theme for your collage, or a different theme or topic. Use your rhyming brainstorm, to inspire your search for more pictures/words and make a beautiful collage! Take a picture of your collage and tag #BOTWCBox!

TAKE THE PLEDGE

I WILL HONOR
THE SACRIFICES OF
MY ANCESTORS.

I WILL BELIEVE
IN ME.

I WILL PURSUE
MY DREAMS.

I WILL HELP
OTHERS ALONG
THE WAY.