Analyze African American History:
Read Closely, then Analyze a Claim’s Evidence
This activity can be applied to biographies and students also can interview individuals to provide information about them.

R1. Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
R2. Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

Step 1.
Complete a two-column chart to note information about the person you will profile. This is an example—put your chart on another page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Events</th>
<th>Choices the Person Made</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Step 2.
Determine what claim about the person’s life can be supported by evidence. It can be one word or a phrase or a sentence.

Here are two examples:
- This individual was persistent despite great obstacles.
- This individual has enabled others to make progress.

What is a claim that some of the information in your chart supports?

Put a checkmark next to the events or choices that strongly support this claim.

Step 3.
Research to add more evidence that supports your claim.

Step 4.
Write a summary. Explain your position, using the strongest examples.

Step 5.
Give your summary to another student. Ask what you can change that will make your report even better. Then adjust it and share it.