

**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.

Important Events	Choices the Person Made

**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.