	Activities and Engaging Readers Guide
	Book Title: Preaching to the Chickens by Jabari Asim
	Source: National Education Association

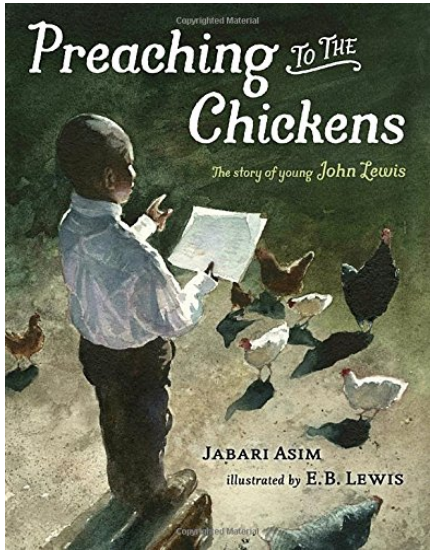
Preaching to the Chickens: The Story of Young John Lewis
by Jabari Asim
Illustrated by E.B. Lewis

Engaging Readers:

Students can find it easy to relate to the childhood stories of celebrated figures. Use this interest to launch further exploration of the true stories of iconic and inspirational people. When you share picture book biographies like *Preaching to the Chickens* by Jabari Asim or *Harlem's Little Blackbird* by Renee Watson, make sure to read aloud the author's note or other back matter. The additional information about their accomplishments, their inspiration, and the times in which they lived is a great starting point for student research for learning more about the era, the people, and what drove their dreams.

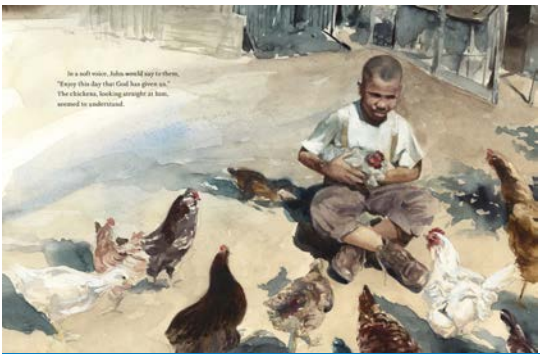
Community Connection:

Living-history performances offer great opportunities for discussion of African-American history and culture. Work with the public library or humanities council for help identifying actors who portray historical figures and bring history to life during Black History Month. Additionally, look to your community for those who are making history today and invite them to speak with students about their art, activism, or other activities making a difference in the lives of others.



Ready Resources:

Hosted by the Black Caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English and NCTE, the **National African American Read-In (AARI)** invites readers from all walks of life to promote literacy as a traditional part of Black History Month activities and celebrate and share the works of African American writers. The AARI Toolkit provides bookmarks, booklists, helpful articles, and more.



ncte.org/aari