



What do you think this means?

Have you seen or heard anything recently about the Black Lives Matter Movement?

[Click here for a Newsround link about racism and the Black Lives Matter movement.](#)

# What happened?

- Recently, America has seen huge protests (standing up for things that are not right) following the death of George Floyd, 46. He died after being arrested by police outside a shop in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- It began with a report of George using a fake money.
- Believing the \$20 note he used to be fake, a store employee reported it to police.
- 30 minutes later, Mr Floyd died.
- All 4 officers involved in his death have been arrested.

## DISCUSS

- How do you feel after watching the Newsround video and reading this? Write down or discuss your thoughts and feelings with a grown up in the house.

# What has happened since?

- Since his death there have been some peaceful protests in every state in America. The tension between protestors and police have resulted in some riots (fighting) in some cities.
- People are protesting the systematic racism from police officers in America, wanting change and justice.
- 1 in 1000 black men are likely to be killed by a police officer in America. Black men are 2.5 times more likely to die at the hands of police in America than white men.



# What do people want?

- Equality for all races.
- Not to be treated with prejudice depending on what colour your skin is.
- To be free from discrimination from police.
- To have justice for the unlawful killings on black people by police officers.



# What's been happening in Bristol?

- There have been protests all over the world, including in Bristol. Protesters in Bristol tore down a statue of Edward Colston - he was a slave trader in the 17th century. The statue was later dragged through the streets of Bristol and thrown into the harbour. It has since been announced that the statue has been taken out of the harbour to be cleaned, before becoming a museum exhibit. The demonstrators have faced some criticism for what they did, but it has got people talking about why the statue of a slave trader was standing in a UK city in 2020. **How do you feel about the statue being torn down?**

**Discuss with an adult at home.**



# Why are people arguing about statues?

For a Newsround article on this, click [here](#)

- Across the UK there are lots of statues, but why are they there and who decides who should get one? Should it be a mark of history or a recognition of good deeds - or both?
- Since the statue of Edward Colston was taken down, London Mayor, Sadiq Khan, has asked for a review into the capital city's statues. The Mayor of Bristol, Marvin Rees, has said: "As an elected politician, obviously I cannot condone the damage... (but) I can't and won't pretend the statue of a slave trader in a city I was born and grew up in wasn't an affront to me and people like me. People in Bristol who don't want that statue in the middle of the city came together and it is my job to unite, hear those voices and hold those truths together for people for who that statue is a personal affront."



Take a minute to look at the pictures from the protests. **Which of the pictures from the protests do you find the most powerful? Talk to your grown-up.**



# What can we do to help combat racism?

- You have the next 3-4 minutes to discuss/think/write down any ways that you think you can do to help tackle racism. Remember to be brave, this is a difficult issue to talk about.
- Whilst you think, have a read of the quotes below.

Treat racism like Covid-19 – assume you have it. You may be asymptomatic. Racism is the disease. You may be the carrier but the aim is not to destroy the host but eradicate and kill the disease’ – Vanessa Kingori, Bri Vogue Publishing Director.



‘No more seeing people of colour as less than human. We can no longer look away’ – Beyoncé, singer.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” Nelson Mandela former South African President.

“No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.” Nelson Mandela former South African President.





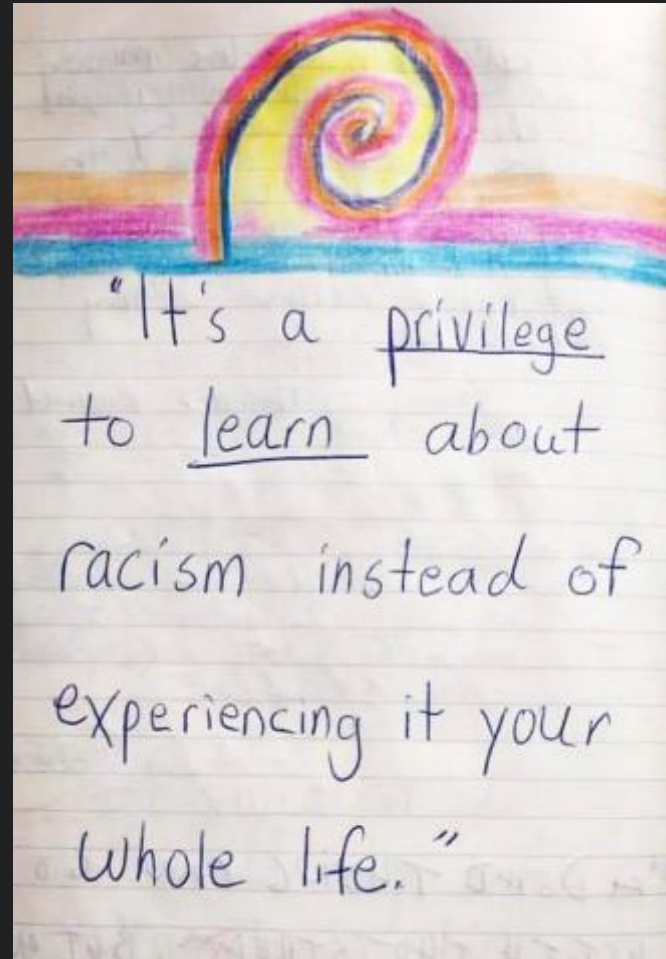
# Why should we care in the UK?

Discrimination, prejudice and racism against black people happens in the UK too.

- Black workers with degrees earn 23.1 percent less on average than White workers.
- Race hate crimes on Britain's railway networks have risen by 37 per cent.
- If you are an ethnic minority person, you are more likely to live in poverty.
- Black people are more likely to get stopped by the police, compared to white people.



What  
message are  
these images  
trying to  
portray?





WE SAID → BLACK LIVES  
MATTER

NEVER SAID → ONLY BLACK  
LIVES MATTER

WE KNOW → ALL LIVES  
MATTER

WE JUST NEED YOUR HELP  
WITH #BLACKLIVESMATTER  
FOR BLACK LIVES are in DANGER!

# What can YOU read?

[Ask an adult to click this link for an anti-racism children's book list.](#)



# What you can do:

- ❑ Write a letter to George Floyd's family explaining how you feel and what you are going to do in your every day life to combat racism and prejudice.
- ❑ Create a slogan/message that you could display at a protest that has a powerful anti-racism message.
- ❑ If you were the president of the USA, describe what you would implement to stop the killings of black men and women.

