

## LGBT History - Primary

Stonewall's home learning packs can be used by parents or carers looking to support their child's learning or by education staff looking to send work home for their pupils. There is a primary, secondary and SEND version of each pack, with a list of suggested activities and supporting materials for you to pick and choose from.

Stonewall is a lesbian, gay, bi and trans equality charity working with employers, schools, colleges and services for LGBT acceptance without exception. Find out more about our work here: [www.stonewall.org.uk](http://www.stonewall.org.uk).

*A word on online safety: please make sure you supervise your child when they use YouTube or are using the internet for research. Talk to them about what they should do if they see something that makes them feel uncomfortable or that they think they shouldn't be seeing. Use our [Staying Safe Online](#) resource or the [Childnet](#) website to help you.*

Choose the right activity for your child:



a simpler version of the activity



the version of the activity that most children will use



a trickier version of the activity



### Reception

- Watch the video about Martin Luther King and Bayard Rustin: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OYY-hyYjw>. Talk to an adult about why it is important to treat people fairly. You could even make a poster about fairness.
- Stick the big Bayard Rustin picture onto a piece of card and cut it up to make a jigsaw.
- Watch the video about Roberta Cowell: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CQ0MENnadm0>. This is a very old video and some of the language used is quite old fashioned. Today we would say that Roberta was a racing driver before her transition and after her transition. Roberta was trans, this means that when she was born people thought she was a boy, but when she got older she told them “I’m a woman, please call me Roberta.”
- Design a racing car for Roberta Cowell.
- Make a racing car for Roberta out of things you find in your recycling.
- Draw a picture of Roberta Cowell winning a race in her car. Write some words or a sentence to explain what she’s doing.
- Watch the video about Alan Turing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LJwNoxwqGM>
- Alan Turing made one of the first computers. Lots of things around the house have computer technology in them – from your tablet to your microwave. How many electronic devices can you find?
- Read the book *Jazz Age Josephine* by Jonah Winter (you might be able to find a copy online).
- Listen to some music by Josephine Baker. You’ll find a great album here: <https://open.spotify.com/album/3C1T2HZuuqWX4pOdmdcRjL?nd=1>. Do you like the music? Does it remind you of other music you’ve heard? You could even make up a dance to the music.
- Watch the video of Josephine Baker dancing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H46uf5-Way0>. Can you dance like her?
- Design an album cover for Josephine Baker.
- Phone a family member and tell them all about one of the people you have learnt about.



### Year 1 & 2

- Watch the video about Martin Luther King and Bayard Rustin:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OYY-hyYjw> Talk to an adult about why it is important to treat people fairly.
- Make a poster about fairness.
- Draw a picture of Bayard Rustin and write a sentence or some sentences to explain why it is important to treat people fairly.
- Stick the big Bayard Rustin picture onto a piece of card and cut it up to make a jigsaw.
- Watch the video about Roberta Cowell:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CQ0MENnadk0>. This is a very old video and some of the language used is quite old fashioned. Today we would say that Roberta was a successful racing driver before her transition and after her transition. Roberta was trans, this means that when she was born people thought she was a boy, but when she got older she told them “I’m a woman, please call me Roberta.”
- Design a racing car for Roberta Cowell.
- Make a racing car for Roberta out of things you find in your recycling.
- Draw a picture of Roberta winning her race. Write a sentence or some sentences to explain what is happening in the picture.
- Watch the video about Alan Turing:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LJwNoxwqGM>
- Alan Turing made one of the first computers. Lots of things around the house have computer technology in them – from your tablet to your microwave. How many electronic devices can you find?
- Can you imagine what life would be like without computers, mobile phones and other electronic devices? Write a letter to Alan Turing to say thank you for inventing computers.
- Read the book *Jazz Age Josephine* by Jonah Winter (you might be able to find a copy online).
- Listen to some music by Josephine Baker. You’ll find a great album here:  
<https://open.spotify.com/album/3C1T2HZuuqWX4pOdmdcRjL?nd=1>. Do you like the music? Does it remind you of other music you’ve heard? You could even make up a dance to the music.
- Watch the video of Josephine Baker dancing:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H46uf5-Way0>. Can you dance like her?

## Home Learning Pack: LGBT History



- Design an album cover for Josephine Baker.
- Phone a family member and tell them all about one of the people you have learnt about.

## Year 3 & 4

- Watch the video about Martin Luther King and Bayard Rustin: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OYY-hyYjw>
- Read the Bayard Rustin fact file.
- Why is it important to treat people fairly? Write a speech on the importance of fairness and respect.
- Stick the big Bayard Rustin picture onto a piece of card and cut it up to make a jigsaw.
- Watch the video about Roberta Cowell: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CQ0MENnadk0>. This is a very old video and some of the language used is quite old fashioned. Today we would say that Roberta was a successful racing driver before her transition and after her transition. Roberta was trans, this means that when she was born people thought she was a boy, but when she got older she told them “I’m a woman, please call me Roberta.”
- Read the Roberta Cowell fact file.
- Design a racing car for Roberta Cowell.
- Make a model racing car – it could be out of things from the recycling or it could be out of any construction toys you have (for example Lego, Meccano)
- Design some different paper planes, which one flies the best. Can you improve its performance?
- Watch the video about Alan Turing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LJwNoxwqGM>
- Read the Alan Turing fact file.
- Can you imagine what life would be like without computers, mobile phones and other electronic devices? Write a story set in a time without computers. You could even turn your story into an animation or an e-book.
- Invent your own code and write some messages in code. Can you get someone to solve them?
- Read the Alan L Hart fact file.
- Research X Rays: <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/X-rays/353941>

## Home Learning Pack: LGBT History



- Research Tuberculosis:  
<https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/tuberculosis/390867>
- Write a page for an encyclopaedia about Alan L Hart and his work.
- Alan L Hart had to hide the fact that he was trans. How might it feel to hide something about yourself? Write a script or record a short section for a podcast on the importance of being yourself and on finding acceptance from others.
- Read the Josephine Baker fact file.
- Listen to some music by Josephine Baker. You'll find a great album here: <https://open.spotify.com/album/3C1T2HZuugWX4pOdmdcRJL?nd=1>. Write a review of Josephine's music. You should say whether you liked the music, what type of music it was, if you had a preferred song on the album, if her songs are similar to any other singers.
- Watch the video of Josephine Baker dancing:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H46uf5-Way0>. Can you dance like her?
- Make up a dance to a Josephine Baker song.
- Choose one of the LGBT people from history and write a diary entry as if you were them.
- Choose one of the LGBT people from history and make a presentation about them. You could do the presentation in PowerPoint if you wanted. Share your presentation with a family member, friend or carer.
- Write a script for a podcast or vlog about LGBT history – choose one or more people to focus on.
- Make a page for an information book about one of the LGBT people from history. Be sure to remember to use headings, subheadings, pictures and captions.
- Make a set of top trumps cards based on each of the LGBT people from history. You should include a drawing of them, a fact about them and should give them ratings for creativity, bravery, intelligence.



### Year 5 & 6

- Watch the video about Martin Luther King and Bayard Rustin:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OYY-hyKYjw>
- Read the Bayard Rustin fact file.
- Why is it important to treat people fairly? Write a speech on the importance of fairness and respect.
- Stick the big Bayard Rustin picture onto a piece of card and cut it up to make a jigsaw.
- Watch the video about Roberta Cowell:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CQ0MENnadk0>. This is a very old video and some of the language used is quite old fashioned. Today we would say that Roberta was a successful racing driver before her transition and after her transition. Roberta was trans, this means that when she was born people thought she was a boy, but when she got older she told them "I'm a woman, please call me Roberta."
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- Design some different paper planes, which one flies the best. Can you improve its performance?
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- Read the Alan Turing fact file.
- Can you imagine what life would be like without computers, mobile phones and other electronic devices? Write a story set in a time without computers. You could even turn your story into an animation or an e-book.
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- Research X Rays: <https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/X-rays/353941>
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## Home Learning Pack: LGBT History



- Alan L Hart had to hide the fact that he was trans. How might it feel to hide something about yourself? Write a script or record a short section for a podcast on the importance of being yourself and on finding acceptance from others.
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- Watch the video of Josephine Baker dancing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H46uf5-Way0>. Can you dance like her?
- Make up a dance to a Josephine Baker song.
- Write a story for younger children based on Josephine Baker's life.
- Write a script for a podcast or vlog about LGBT history – choose at least two people to focus on.
- Design a web page about one of the LGBT people from history. You could use the hyperlinks feature in PowerPoint to do this.
- Make a set of top trumps cards based on each of the LGBT people from history. You should include a drawing of them, a fact about them and should give them ratings for creativity, bravery, intelligence.



# Resources for everyone



## Bayard Rustin



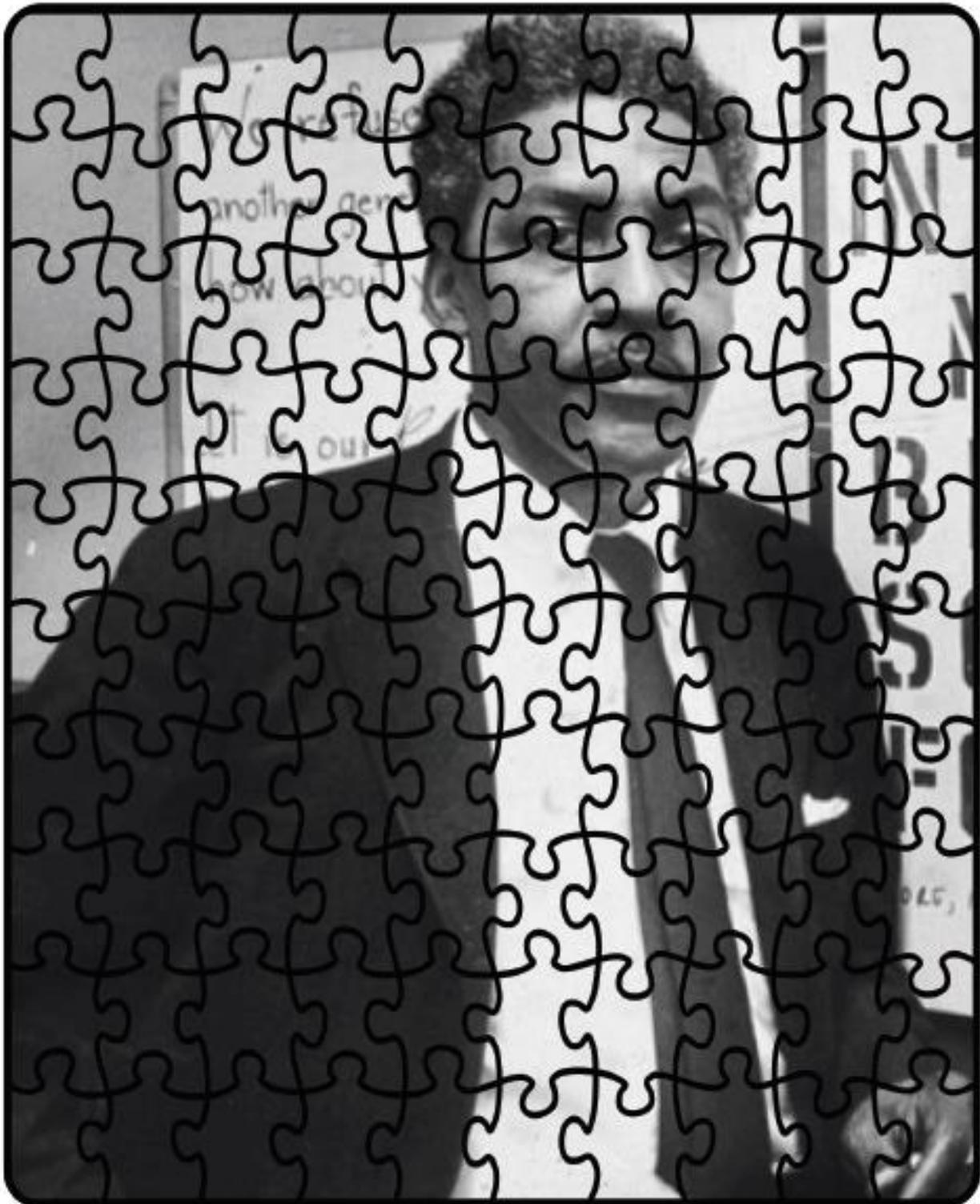


## Bayard Rustin





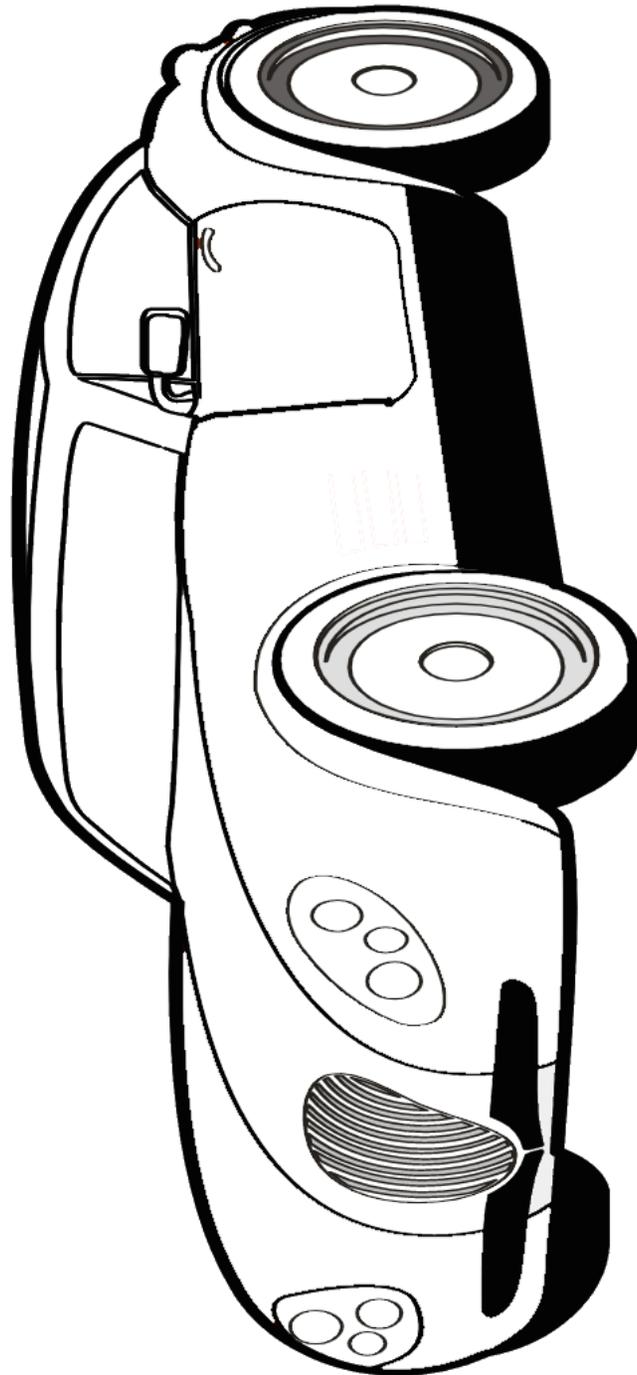
## Bayard Rustin





## Roberta's racing car

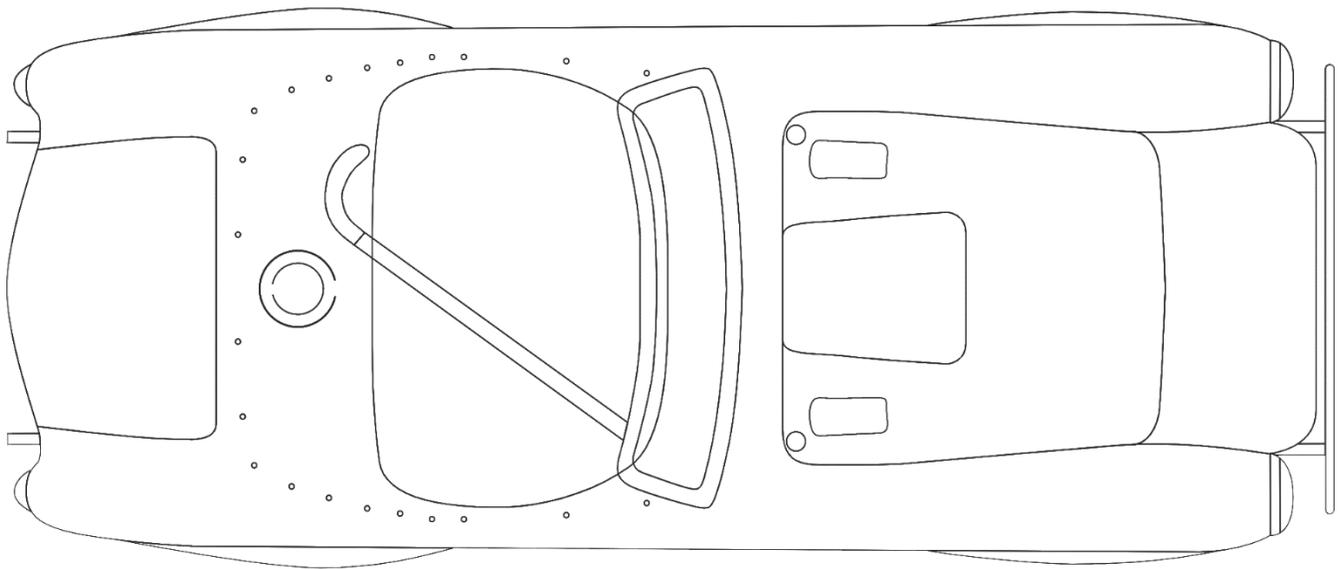
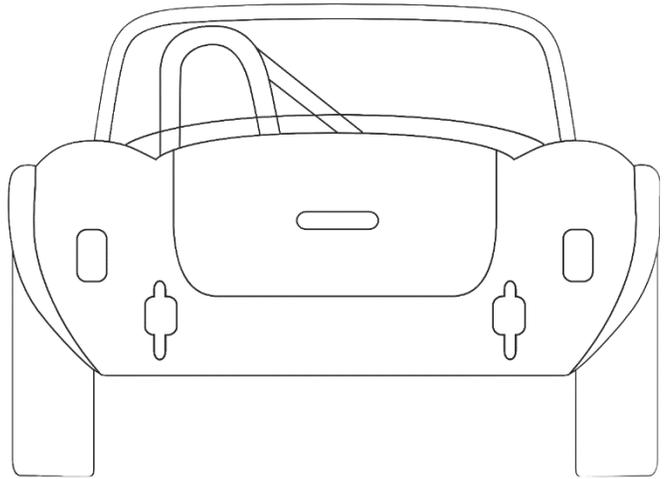
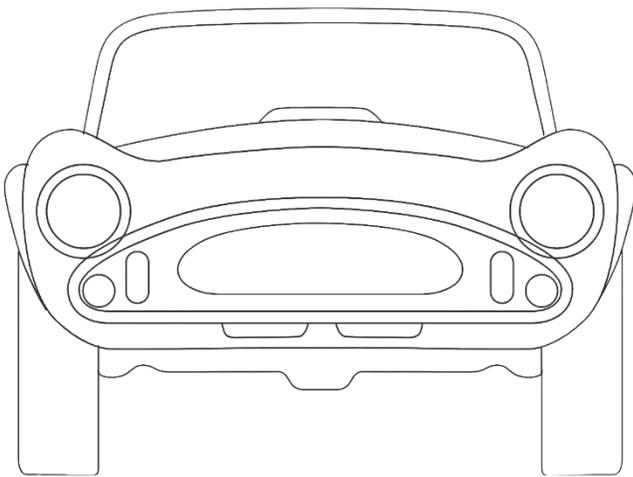
Design a racing car for Roberta Cowell.





# Roberta's Racing Car

Design a racing car for Roberta Cowell.





# Resources for Reception and Key Stage 1 children



## A role model from history

Draw a picture of the role model from history, write their name under the picture.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick red border, intended for drawing a picture of a role model from history.

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## A role model from history

Draw a picture of the role model from history, write about them underneath your picture.



This is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_



## A role model from history

Draw a picture of the role model from history, write about them underneath your picture.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick red border, intended for students to draw a picture of a role model from history.

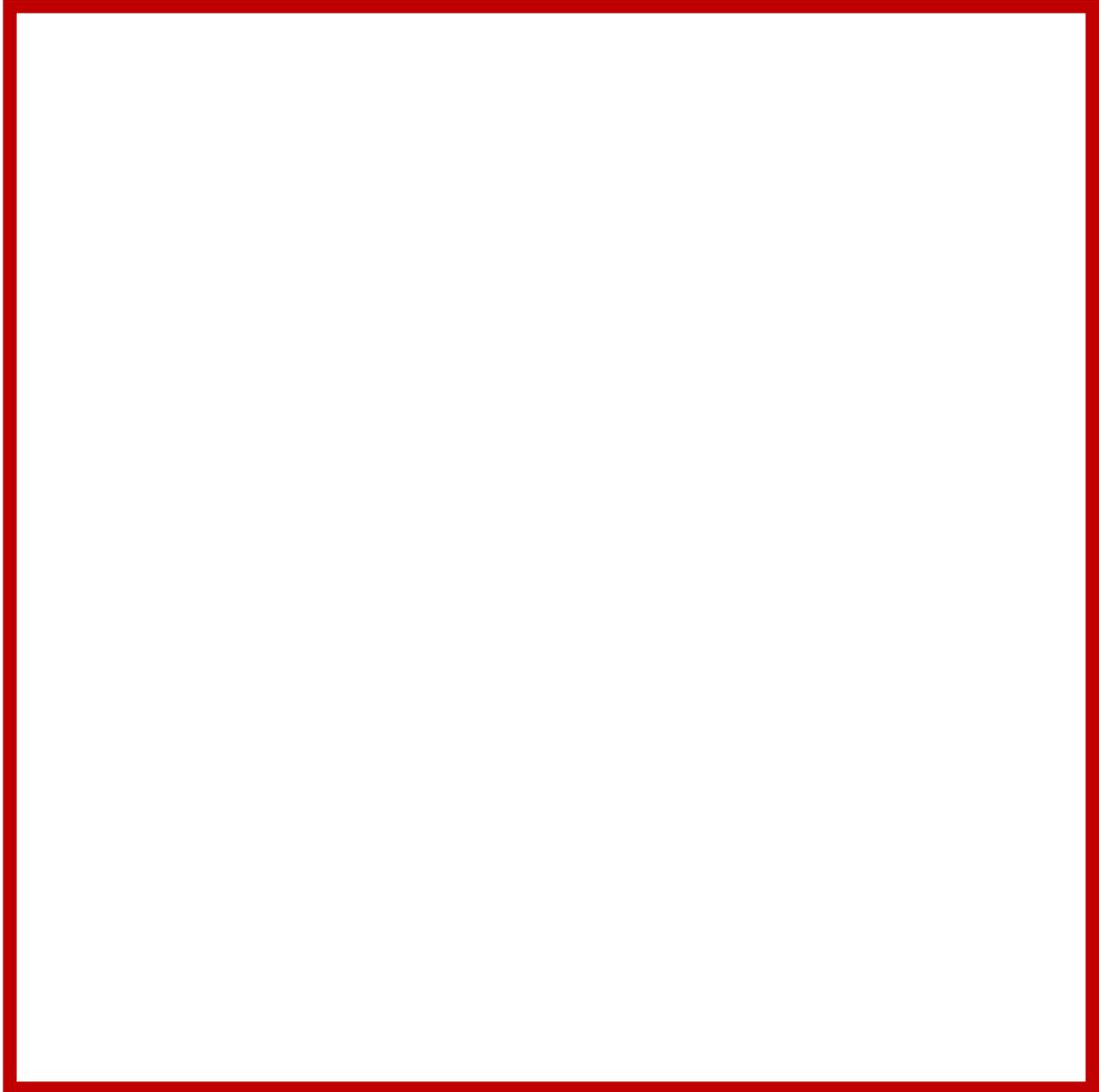
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## Josephine's album cover

Design an album cover for Josephine Baker's *Greatest Hits* album.





# Resources for Key Stage 2 children



# Bayard Rustin

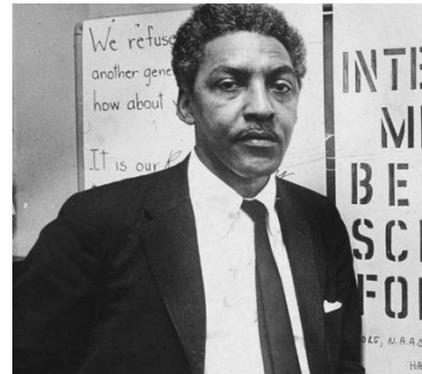
## Early Life

Bayard Rustin was born in 1912. He lived with his grandparents in USA.

## The Civil Rights Movement

In the past, people of colour in USA were only allowed to sit at the back of the bus.

In the 1950s and 1960s people started saying that it was wrong.



This was called the Civil Rights Movement.

Bayard organised a very famous march called the '*March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom*'.

Martin Luther King Junior was at the march.

He made a very famous speech. Bayard made a speech too.

Bayard helped to change the law so that people of colour people had the same rights as white people.

## Jail

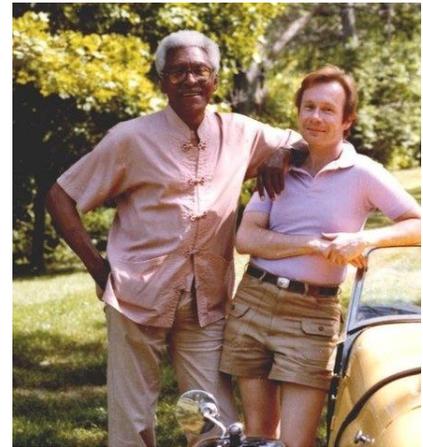
Bayard Rustin was gay.

It used to be against the law to be gay.

Bayard went to jail because he was gay.

Lots of people did not like Bayard because he was gay.

Bayard kept working to make sure that people of colour people and lesbian, bi, gay and trans people can have good lives.



## Later life

Bayard's partner was called Walter.

Bayard and Walter were together for 10 years.

Bayard died in 1987.



# Bayard Rustin

## Early Life

Bayard Rustin was born in 1912. He lived with his grandparents in USA.

## The Civil Rights Movement

People of colour in USA were treated unfairly. People of colour were only allowed to sit at the back of the bus. In the 1950s and 1960s people started saying that it was wrong. This was called the Civil Rights Movement.

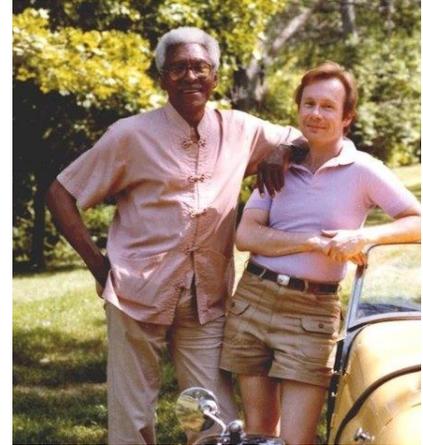


Bayard organised a very famous march. It was called the '*March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom*'. Martin Luther King Junior was at the march. He made a very famous speech. Bayard made a speech too.

Bayard helped to change the law so that people of colour had the same rights as white people.

## Jail

Bayard Rustin went to jail for being gay. It used to be against the law. Lots of people did not like Bayard because he was gay. Bayard kept working to make sure that people of colour and lesbian, bi, gay and trans people can have good lives.



## Later life

Bayard's partner was called Walter. They could not get married. Bayard and Walter were together for 10 years. Bayard died in 1987.



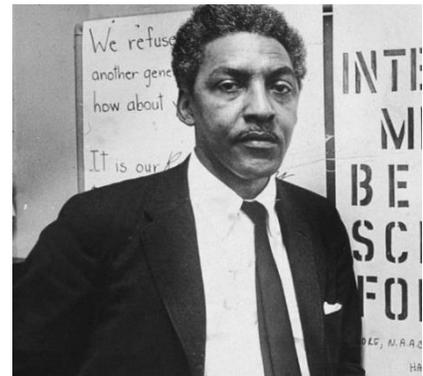
# Bayard Rustin

## Early Life

Bayard Rustin is famous for working for equal rights in the USA. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1912. When he was growing up, Bayard lived with his grandparents.

## The Civil Rights Movement

In the 1950s, people of colour did not have the same rights as white people. Children of colour and white children went to separate schools. People of colour were only allowed to sit at the back of the bus. People of colour weren't even allowed to vote. The Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s and 1960s asked people of colour to be treated fairly.

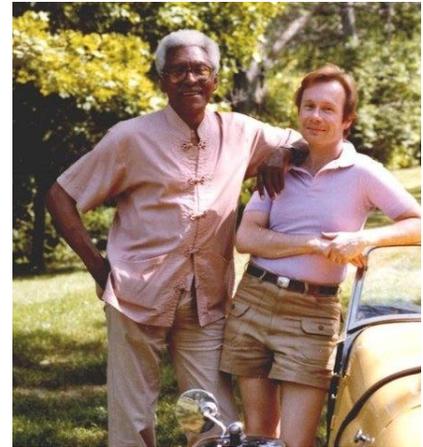


Martin Luther King Jr is the most famous person from the Civil Rights Movement. Bayard met Martin in the 1950s. Bayard was in charge of organising peaceful protests. He organised the 1963 '*March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom*'. This was one of the most famous moments in the Civil Rights Movement. Bayard Rustin and Martin Luther King Jr made speeches at the march. Martin made his famous '*I have a dream*' speech.

The Civil Rights Movement was successful. The 1964 Civil Rights Act said that children of colour and white children could go to the same schools. In 1965, people of colour were given the right to vote.

## Arrested

Bayard Rustin was arrested by the police a lot. He did not go and fight in World War 2 so he was sent to jail. In 1947 he was arrested when he was at a protest. Bayard was arrested for being gay because it used to be against the law. Even though he was sent to jail, Bayard kept being honest about being gay. Lots of people did not like it. This did not stop Bayard from working towards equality for people of colour as well as equality for lesbian, bi, gay and trans people.



## Later life

In 1977 Bayard met his partner Walter Neagle. Bayard and Walter could not get married, but gay people were starting to be more accepted. Bayard and Walter were together for 10 years. Bayard died in 1987.



# Roberta Cowell

## Early life

Roberta Cowell was born in Croydon in 1936.

Everyone thought she was a boy.

She was given a boy's name.

## Growing up

Roberta loved cars and vehicles.

At university, Roberta met a woman called Diana. They got married in 1941. Roberta and Diana had two children.



## World War 2

Roberta was a British pilot in World War 2.

Her plane crashed when she was flying over Germany.

She was put in prison by the German army.

### **A racing driver**

After the war, Roberta was a racing driver.

She won lots of races.

But Roberta felt bad about herself.

People still thought she was a man.



### **Transition**

Roberta told people that she was trans.

She changed her name to Roberta, grew her hair long and started to wear skirts and dresses.

People were unkind to her because she was trans.

She was still happy that people now knew she was a woman.



# Roberta Cowell

## Early life

Roberta Cowell was born in Croydon in 1936. When she was born, everyone thought she was a boy and she was given a boy's name.



## Growing up

Roberta enjoyed about engineering and she loved cars. At university, Roberta met a woman called Diana. They got married in 1941. Roberta and Diana had two children.

## World War 2

In 1942, Roberta became a pilot in the Royal Air Force. This was during World War 2. Her plane crashed over Germany and she was captured. Roberta was held prisoner for 5 months.

### **A racing driver**

After the war, Roberta was a racing driver. She founded her own motor-racing team. But Roberta started to feel very bad about herself and about her body. People still thought she was a man.



### **Transition**

Roberta decided to tell people that she was trans. She changed her name to Roberta, grew her hair long and started to wear skirts and dresses. Roberta did race again after transition, but people were unkind to her. Despite these difficulties, Roberta was glad that she had transitioned.



# Roberta Cowell

## Early life

Roberta Cowell was born in Croydon in 1936. She was not originally called Roberta, as she was trans. She didn't change her name or tell anyone she was trans until she was an adult. For this reason, Roberta was treated as if she was a boy when she was growing up and was treated as if she was a man during the early part of her adult life.



## Growing up

Roberta was always enthusiastic about engineering and she especially loved working on racing cars. She loved driving them even more. At university, Roberta met a woman called Diana. They got married in 1941. At this point people saw Roberta as a man, and they saw Roberta and Diana as husband and wife. Roberta and Diana had two children.

## World War 2

In 1942, Roberta became a pilot in the Royal Air Force. This was during World War 2, so Roberta made lots of flights over Germany. Her plane crashed over Germany and she was captured. Roberta was held prisoner by the German army for 5 months.

## A racing driver

After the war, Roberta started racing cars competitively. She founded her own motor-racing team and was very successful. However, Roberta started to feel very troubled by her experiences in the war and because she felt uncomfortable with her body.



## Transition

Roberta decided to transition - she changed her name to Roberta, grew her hair long and changed the way she dressed. Roberta did briefly race again after transition, but people discriminated against her. Despite these difficulties, Roberta was glad that she had transitioned.



# Alan Turing

## Early life

Alan Turing was born in London in 1912.

He was very good at maths.



## A code breaker

During World War 2, Alan went to work at Bletchley Park.

He was a code breaker.

The Germans used a machine called The Enigma to turn all their messages into code.

Alan made a machine that could break the code.

It was an early version of a computer.

The people at Bletchley Park found out what Germans' secret messages meant.

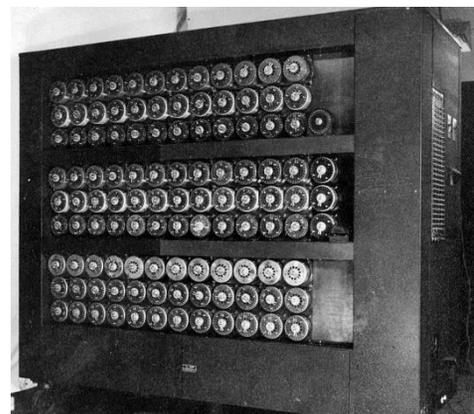
This helped make Germany lose the war.

## A secret life

Alan had to keep his work during World War 2 a secret.

After the war, he worked making computers.

Alan was gay and used to have a boyfriend.



## Home Learning Pack: LGBT History



It used to be against the law to be gay.

The police found out that Alan was gay and they arrested him.

### **Poison**

Alan Turing died in 1954.

He had been poisoned.

We don't know if he poisoned himself or if somebody poisoned him.

We do know that Alan Turing helped change the world.





# Alan Turing

## Early life

Alan Turing was born in London in 1912. He was excellent at maths and went to study it at university.



## A code breaker

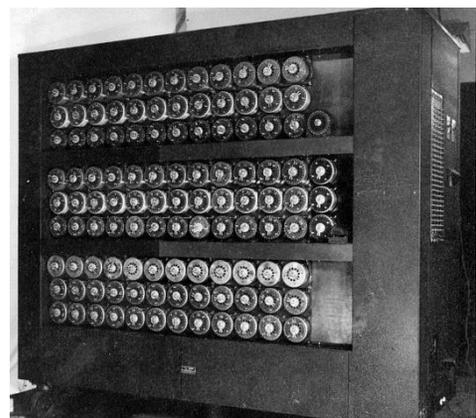
During World War 2, Alan went to work at Bletchley Park. This was where all the code breakers worked during the war. The German military used a machine called The Enigma to turn all their messages into code. It was very hard to break the code.

Alan and his team created a code breaking machine called the Bombe. This was an early version of a computer. The Bombe helped them to work out what all of the Germans' secret messages meant. This helped make Germany lose the war.

## A secret life

Everybody that had worked at Bletchley Park during World War 2 had to keep their work secret. After the war, Alan Turing worked making computers.

Alan Turing was gay. It used to be against the law to be gay, so Alan had to keep it a



## Home Learning Pack: LGBT History



secret. One day there was a break in at Alan's house. The police found out that it was Alan's ex-boyfriend. As a result, Alan was arrested for being gay.

### **Poison**

In 1954, Alan Turing was found dead. He had been poisoned. We still don't know if he poisoned himself on purpose, if it was an accident or if somebody else poisoned him.



One thing that we do know is that Alan Turing had a lasting impact on the world. In 2013 he was given a Royal Pardon. The Prime Minister said that it had been wrong to arrest people for being gay. From 2021, Alan Turing's picture will be on £50 notes in the UK.



# Alan Turing

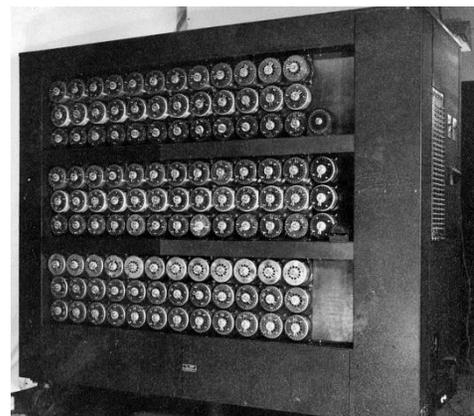
## Early life and university

Alan Turing was born in London in 1912. He was excellent at maths and went to study it at Cambridge University. After that he became a researcher in the field of maths, specifically in work around probability and logic. This work would influence his later work in computing.



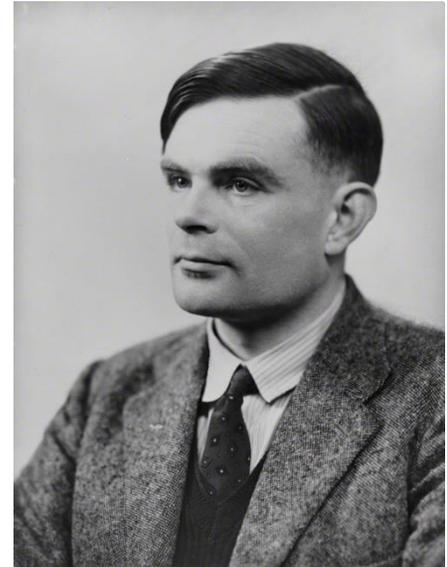
## A code breaker

After finishing his research, Alan joined the Government Code and Cypher School. During World War 2, Alan went to work at Bletchley Park. This was where all of the government code breakers were based during the war. The German military encrypted all of their messages using a machine called the Enigma. It was incredibly hard to break the code because the machine was so complicated. Alan and his team created a code breaking machine called the Bombe – this was an early version of a computer. The Bombe deciphered a huge number of messages, meaning that the British military and their allies had a tactical advantage. Alan Turing's work is credited with bringing an end to the war.



## A secret life

Everybody that had worked at Bletchley Park during World War 2 had to keep their work secret. After the war, Alan Turing went on to work on designing computers. He went to work at the University of Manchester and wrote the first ever computer programming manual.



Alan Turing was gay. However, it was illegal to be gay at the time and so Alan had to keep it a secret. One day there was a break in at Alan's home near Manchester. The police discovered that it was Alan's ex-boyfriend that had broken in. As a result, Alan was arrested for being gay. He was given the choice of going to prison or taking some medication that would make him not want a boyfriend or a girlfriend. He chose the medicine.

## Unhappy

Alan carried on his work at Manchester University, but he was finding life increasingly difficult. In 1954 Alan was found dead as a result of cyanide poisoning. It still isn't clear whether he had poisoned himself on purpose, whether someone else had poisoned him or whether he had accidentally breathed in some fumes from an experiment he had been working on. One thing that is clear is the important contribution that Alan Turing made to the world. In 2013, Alan Turing was given a Royal Pardon and an apology which recognised that it had been wrong to arrest people for being gay. From 2021, Alan Turing's picture will be on £50 notes in the UK.



# Alan L. Hart

## Early life

Alan L. Hart was born in the state of Kansas in the USA in 1880.

Everyone thought he was a girl.

His parents gave him a girl's name.

## School and college

Alan did very well at school.

He wanted to be a doctor.

At university Alan learnt how to be a doctor.

Alan wore suits and started to look more like a man.



## Being himself

Alan talked to some doctors about being trans.

He changed his name to Alan.

He also got a job as a doctor.

He got married to his wife Inez in 1918.

They kept it secret that he was trans. They were worried that people would be unkind.

Later Alan and Inez got divorced.

One day Alan got married again, this time to a woman called Edna.

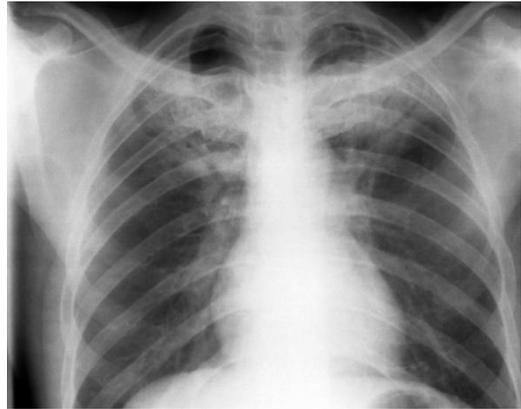
### **A great doctor**

Alan knew a lot about an illness called TB.

He found out that an x-ray can show if someone has TB.

If a doctor knows that someone has TB, they can help them.

When he died in 1962, Alan L. Hart's work had made a real difference to people all over the world.





# Alan L. Hart

## Early life

Alan L. Hart was born in the state of Kansas in the USA in 1880. When he was born, everyone thought he was a girl. His parents gave him a girl's name and everyone treated him like a girl. As a child Alan liked pretending to be a doctor.

## School

Alan did very well at school and he liked reading. He went to university to study medicine. This was when Alan started to wear suits and change how he looked. He looked more like a man and less like a girl.



## Being himself

Alan changed his name to Alan. He spoke to some doctors about the fact that he was trans. At this time, he also became a doctor.

Alan married his girlfriend Inez in 1918. They were both worried that people would treat Alan badly if they knew he was trans. That's why they kept it a secret. Someone found out that Alan was trans and they were unkind to him. It was so bad that he had to leave his job and move to another town with Inez.

Years later Alan and Inez got divorced. One day Alan got married again, this time to a woman called Edna.

### **A great career**

Over time, Alan became interested in an illness called tuberculosis. He found out that you can use x-rays to tell if someone has tuberculosis. This means that you can treat the illness and save their life.



Alan was also a writer and he wrote many books. His stories were often about doctors or people who had a hard life.

When he died in 1962, Alan L. Hart's work as a doctor had made a real difference to people all around the world.



# Alan L. Hart

## Early life

Alan L. Hart was born in the state of Kansas in the USA in 1880. He was not originally called Alan, as he was trans. He didn't change his name or tell anyone he was trans until he was older. For this reason, Alan was treated as if he was a girl when he was growing up. His dad died when Alan was only 2, so he and his mum moved back to Oregon. As a child Alan especially enjoyed pretending to be a doctor.

## School

Alan didn't fit in very well with the other children, but he did very well at school. He was an especially keen reader. He went to university and went on to study medicine. This was when Alan started to wear suits and change his appearance. In those days, it was mainly men that wore trouser suits. Because people still thought that Alan was a woman, not everyone was kind to him about his appearance.



## Being himself

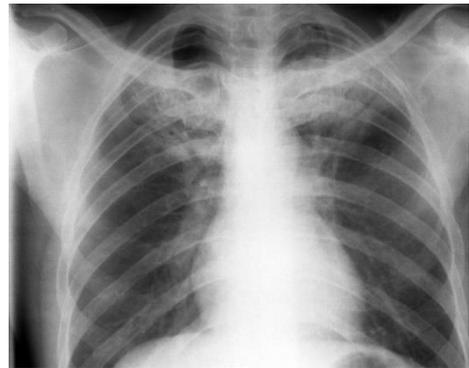
Alan officially changed his name to Alan and started using "he" and "him" pronouns in 1917. He spoke to some doctors about the fact that he was trans. Whilst doing all of this, Alan also qualified as a doctor.

Alan married his girlfriend Inez in 1918. They kept the fact that Alan was trans a secret, for fear of discrimination. However, Alan's first job as a doctor was short lived as someone from his past had recognised him. The

person told others he was trans and Alan was harassed as a result. Alan and Inez moved to a different part of the country and Alan started working as a doctor again. During their marriage, Alan and Inez had to move a lot for his work. This was very stressful and Alan and Inez got divorced. Later in his life, Alan got married to a woman called Edna.

### **A great career**

As his medical career progressed, he became increasingly interested in a disease called tuberculosis. It was Alan L. Hart who was the first person to suggest using x-rays to diagnose it. This means that it is now possible to diagnose tuberculosis earlier, saving millions of lives worldwide. As well as being a



doctor, Alan was also a writer. He wrote a great many novels, which were often about doctors or about people that were overcoming prejudice. Alan died in 1962 having made an important contribution to society.



# Josephine Baker

## Early life

Josephine Baker was born in 1906 in the USA.

Her family was very poor.

Josephine got her first job when she was only 8 years old.

## A dancer

When she was 15, Josephine became a dancer.

People liked her and found her funny.

Josephine soon became a star.

She went to live in France and worked as a singer and a dancer.

Josephine had a big house in France with lots of different animals in it.



## A spy

During World War 2, Josephine was a spy.

She travelled all around Europe to give concerts.

This helped her to pass on secret messages during the war.

## Racism

Josephine went back to the USA in the 1950s.

People treated people of colour a lot worse than they treated white people.  
This is called racism.

Josephine spoke out against racism and said it was wrong.

## Family

In her life Josephine had lots of husbands and some girlfriends too.

Josephine decided to adopt some children.

She had 13 children, all from different countries.

## Always a star

Josephine Baker was a singer, dancer and actress until the day she died.

She died in France in 1975.





# Josephine Baker

## Early life

Josephine Baker had a very eventful life. She was born in 1906 in the state of Missouri in the USA. Her family was very poor and Josephine had to go to work when she was only 8 years old. Sometimes Josephine would dance on the street and passers-by would give her money.

## A performer

When she was 15, Josephine joined a theatre group. She was a popular dancer and people also found her funny. Josephine danced in New York and then went to perform in Paris, France. She had wonderful career – she sang, she danced and she was funny.



Josephine bought a big house and lots of different animals including a cheetah, a chimpanzee, a parakeet, a snake, a goat and a horse.

## A spy

During World War 2, Josephine was part of the French resistance. She travelled all around Europe to give concerts. It was a chance for her to pass on secret messages and find out secret information about the war.

## Racism

Josephine went back to the USA in the 1950s but found that she faced a lot of racism. People treated people of colour a lot worse than they treated white people. Josephine spoke out against this and said it was wrong.

In 1963, Josephine spoke out against racism alongside Martin Luther King at the famous *March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom*.

### Family

Josephine had been married several times in her life and also had some girlfriends. When she had a French husband, it meant that she could get a French passport and live in France forever.

She decided to adopt 13 children from around the world and referred to them as her “rainbow family”.

### Always a star

Josephine Baker was a singer, dancer and actress for almost her entire life. She died in 1975, shortly after a hugely successful show in France.





# Josephine Baker

## Early life

Josephine Baker had an incredibly varied and eventful life. She was born in 1906 in the state of Missouri in the USA. Her parents were both entertainers, but their careers were not successful. The family was very poor and Josephine had to get a job as a maid when she was only 8 years old. Some of her bosses were extremely cruel to her. Sometimes Josephine would dance on the street, collecting money from passers-by.

## A performer

When she was 15, Josephine joined a theatre troupe. She became increasingly popular as a dancer and was known for being funny as well as being a fantastic dancer. Her career took her to live in New York and then to Paris in France. Josephine had an incredibly successful career as a performer – she sang, she danced and she was funny. She was even a film star too. Josephine bought a big house and a whole array of animals including a cheetah, a chimpanzee, a parakeet, a snake, a goat and a horse. They all had diamond collars.



## A spy

During World War 2, Josephine was part of the French resistance and used her popularity to her advantage. She travelled all around Europe performing, whilst taking the opportunity to carry secret messages and find out important tactical information. Throughout her life, Josephine had been

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married several times and also had some girlfriends. She had also gained a French passport through one of her husbands.

### Racism

Josephine returned to the USA in the 1950s but found that she faced a lot of racism. She spoke out against this racism and because of this, there were some people that tried to ruin her reputation. Josephine moved back to France to start a family. She decided to adopt 13 children from around the world and referred to them as her “rainbow family”. In 1963, Josephine spoke out against racism alongside Martin Luther King at the famous *March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom*.

### Always a performer

Josephine Baker was a performer for almost her entire life. She died in 1975, shortly after making a hugely successful performance in France.





# Top Trumps

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Description:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Special skills:**

Bravery: /10

Creativity: /10

Intelligence: /10