


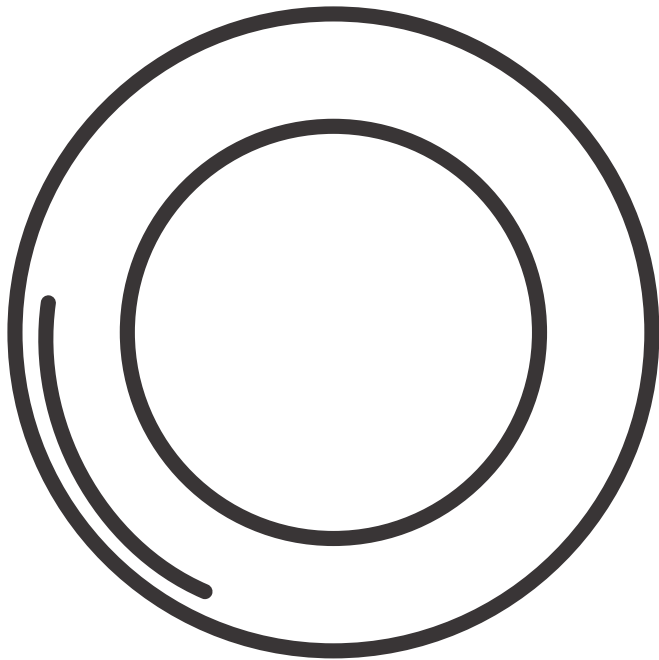
JUNETEENTH

Freedom Day • African American Independence Day • Jubilee Day



This celebration marks a day in 1865 when enslaved Texans learned they'd be free—two months after Robert E. Lee surrendered and ended the Civil War and two and a half years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation.

Color in the word "Juneteenth". According to food historian Michael Twitty, the tradition of eating red foods likely came from the enslaved Yoruba and Kongo people brought to Texas in the 19th century. The color red can represent power, sacrifice, and transformation in both of those cultures.



Introduce the tradition of eating red foods on Juneteenth. Have a red snack together (like strawberries, red apples, or red punch), then talk about why food can be a part of celebrations and traditions.

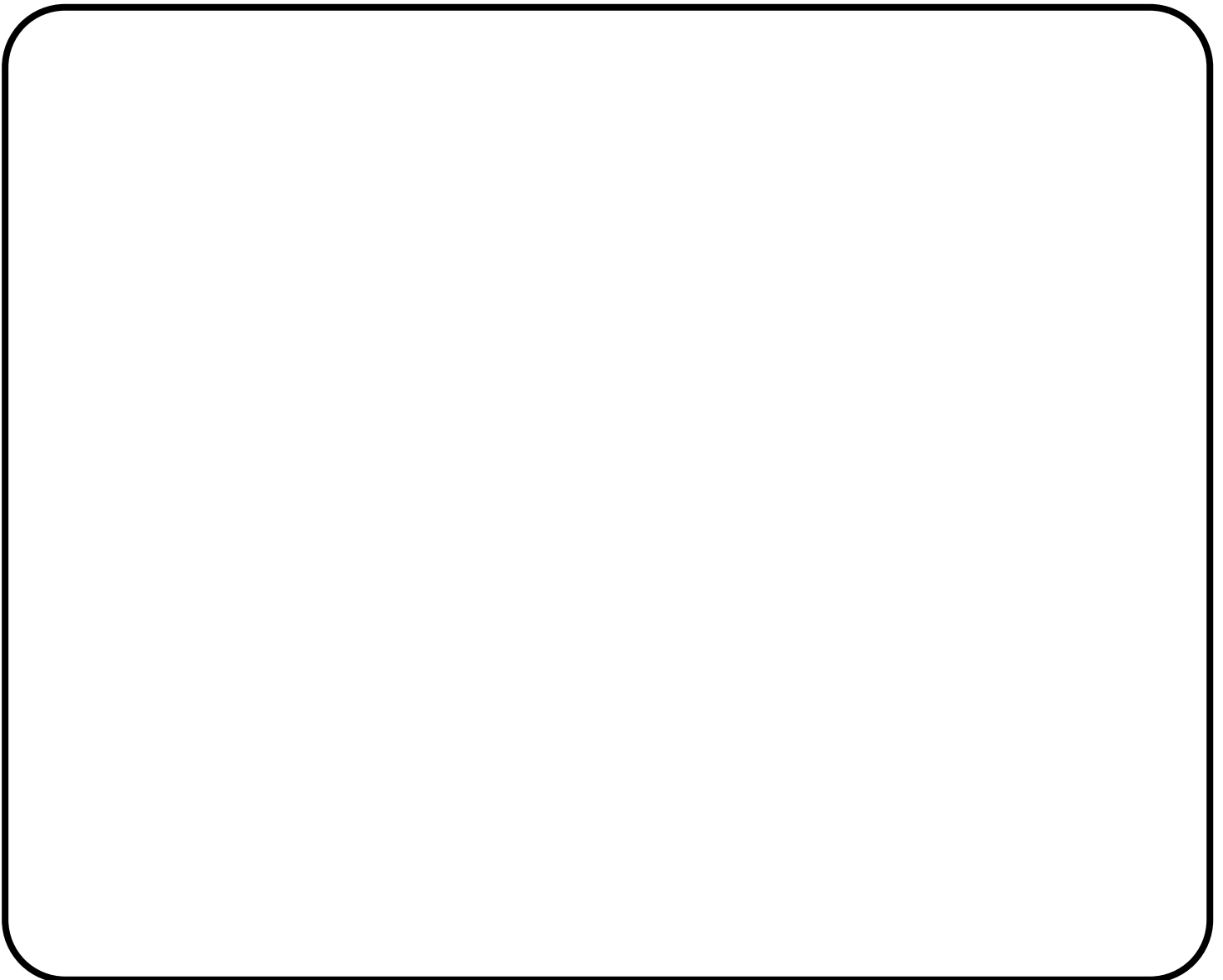
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Draw a picture of your snack!

Storytime & Drawing: “What Makes Me Free?”

Read a picture book that highlights Juneteenth or themes of freedom (like Juneteenth for Mazie by Floyd Cooper). After the story, have Cloverbuds draw a picture of something that makes them feel happy and free.



Juneteenth Bracelet Making

Provide red, black, green, and yellow beads (Pan-African colors) and string. As they make their bracelets, talk about what each color can represent and how people express themselves through jewelry.



Freedom Dance Party

Play upbeat music (especially songs by Black artists or from African American traditions) and let kids dance freely. End with a short reflection: "How did that music make you feel?"



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