Ed Dwight, America's First Black Astronaut Candidate

Ed Dwight was chosen by President John F. Kennedy in 1961 as the nation’s first Black astronaut candidate but was never granted the opportunity to fly in space. Use the resources below to learn about his 60 year journey to space!

Essential Questions...
In what ways did racially motivated discrimination hinder Ed Dwight and the integration of NASA’s astronaut program?

Ed Dwight, America’s First Black Astronaut Candidate | Chasing the Moon
Hear Ed Dwight’s firsthand account of his experience and the challenges he faced as the nation’s first Black astronaut candidate in this video adapted from Chasing the Moon | AMERICAN EXPERIENCE.
Grades 6-12  https://edmediva.org/l/28083

Blue Origin's NS-25 Launch
Watch Ed Dwight’s historic flight to space on Blue Origin's New Shepard Rocket.

Additional Resources
The Color of Space: A NASA documentary showcasing the stories of Black astronauts.
The Space Race Documentary: Hear the stories of Black NASA astronauts. Streaming on Hulu and Disney+

Learn more at www.clubforfuture.org
Founded by Blue Origin, Club for the Future is a nonprofit with the mission to inspire and mobilize future generations to pursue careers in STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) for the benefit of Earth. The Club and its partners are doing this through the Postcards to Space program, providing space-focused lessons and events, and activating ambassadors around the world. To date, Club for the Future has engaged over 41 million individuals through our programs, initiatives, and collaborations.