**2009**

**8-10 Years**

**Joint 3rd Place**

**Khalid Kerr**

**I am proud to be a child of African descent because...**

**I love it when I go to Ghana where there is the hot, boiling sun**

**which makes me feel FREE.**

***Where have you learnt the most about African history?***

***At school, from your family or somewhere else? What is your***

***favourite story about African or Caribbean history?***

I learnt the most about African people’s history when I went to Ghana and Jamaica.

In Ghana I went to a museum in Kumasi, it was a lot about Ghanaian soldiers who went to fight wars for the British. There was a woman, white people said she was a man but she was a very strong woman called Yaa Asantewa. Next, we went to a museum in Accra, about the first black president of Africa in Ghana, his name was Kwame Nkrumah.

In Jamaica we went to a lot of places that great people had done great things for the nation, like Marcus Garvey. We looked at a very special place where a man lived who helped the Nation and rescued people.

I have learnt most of what I know about African history from my mum from Ghana, my dad a Jamaican and my Nana who is my mum’s mum. I think that African history should be learnt at school because at my school, Brunswick Park Primary Southwark, we are taught a lot about white people, I am not trying to be racist but the good stuff black people did white people twisted it around and said white people were the ones that did them. For example, my mum said that Florence Nightingale was a little bit mean but when I went to school and my teacher for the first time planned for us to learn about a black person, my teacher said that Mary Seacole was rude to Florence Nightingale so I did a bit of research. I found out that Florence Nightingale did not like Mary Seacole; she did not want to know her.

([www.bbc.co.uk/schools/famouspeople/standard/seacole/index.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/famouspeople/standard/seacole/index.shtml) and [www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic\_figures/seacole\_mary.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/seacole_mary.shtml))

When you learn about Florence Nightingale they do not mention Mary Seacole but when you read about Mary Seacole they mention Florence Nightingale. This is not right; children must learn about the two of them because Mary Seacole worked very hard.

My favourite African story I choose to hear about is when the white people took over countries in Africa, chained up Africans who had to lie all squashed up on top of each other, when they pooed it dropped on people below. It may have started on a beautiful day when the white nations took over and chained the legs and arms not letting them travel in a nice way, they travelled by foot then onto a boat; you know they had to lie down on things that looked like book shelves for a long time. If they did the wrong thing they got whipped. The white people banged on the rocks and the captured Africans had to do whatever they asked them to do.

When I went to a Gallery in South London, I found out that there are still people who are slaves. I don’t think that to have slaves is okay; maybe if we learn African history in slave time, people will learn that to have slaves is horrible and black people had a bad time.