PNC Tinkering for Tots: What are we learning about in February?

Habit of the month:

**CHALLENGE THE RULES**

**Description:** Do we have to do something the same way every time, or is there a better way? If an action is wrong, how can we help fix or change it?

Story: What are we reading?

**Title:** Courageous People Who Changed the World  
**Author:** Heidi Poelman

**Why we picked this book:** In celebrating Black History Month, we want to introduce our littlest learners to a variety of people who spoke up when they knew something was happening. They used their voices and their writing to challenge the rules of society that were not fair and did not treat everyone equally.

**Questions you can ask your young learner:**  
What were some of the unfair things the people in the story were trying to change? How would you feel if you were treated unfairly? How can we help change something that is unfair?

Artifact of the day: Where are we going?

**Name:**  
Ebony magazine, November 1962, featuring Martin Luther King Jr. on the cover

**Location:**  
*With Liberty and Justice for All*

Short description: During the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s, no one was more influential than Martin Luther King Jr., and Ebony magazine featured him on the cover multiple times. On the walls of this exhibit, read his words, listen to him speak and watch videos of him in action.

**Questions you can ask your young learner:**  
How do you think Martin Luther King’s words made people feel? How can we use our words to be helpful to others? What was the goal of Martin Luther King’s actions? (What did he want to do?)

What to see next: In looking at the other parts of the *With Liberty and Justice for All* exhibit, here are some other discussion suggestions for you and your little learner:

- **Declaration of Independence:** Standing up for citizens having no voice in their government or how their country was run.
- **Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth:** Working to end the system of slavery.
- **Susan B. Anthony and Alice Paul:** Working to give women a voice in government by giving them the right to vote.
- **Cesar Chavez:** Fighting for better wages and working conditions for farm workers (see button).
- **Gandhi (in Your Place in Time):** Using nonviolent techniques to achieve independence for the people of India, a model for Martin Luther King (see book).

Take Home STEAM Activity: What are we doing?

**Title:** Book Binding

**Materials:**  
- 1 sheet of pre-punched colored card stock  
- 7 sheets of pre-punched printer paper  
- 1 rubber band  
- 1 dowel rod
Take Home STEAM Activity: Book Binding

Materials:
- 1 sheet of pre-punched colored card stock
- 7 sheets of pre-punched printer paper
- 1 rubber band
- 1 dowel rod

Directions:

1. Place the printer paper sheets in the pre-folded cardstock sheet.

2. Thread one end of the rubber band through the top hole, being sure to thread it through all layers of paper. This should create a small loop on the front side of the book.

3. Take one end of the dowel rod and slide it through the top loop you created with the rubber band.

4. Take the other end of the rubber band and thread it through the bottom hole, being sure to thread through all layers of paper. This will create another loop on the front side of the book.

5. Slide the other end of the dowel rod through the new loop you have created with the rubber band.

6. On the front side of your book, you should see the dowel rod, secured by rubber band loops. On the back side, you will see only the stretched rubber band.

7. Using your own markers, crayons or colored pencils, fill the pages by writing your ABCs and drawing colorful pictures.