Growing up in Harlem in the 1930s, Bertram A. Fitzgerald realized at a young age that black history was more than just the lessons he had learned in school about slavery. Inspired by his 7th grade teacher, Fitzgerald devoted his time to reading about the contributions made by many African Americans throughout history that seemed to have been overlooked in textbooks.

In the 1960s, Fitzgerald recognized the need for a way to teach children about the same black heroes that had for so long inspired him. The result is the Golden Legacy Illustrated History Magazine, a series of sixteen comic books published between 1966 and 1976, which commemorated these men and women and taught a new generation of children about their own traditions—at a time when they were most needed.

In recognition of Black History Month, this edition of Curiosity Corner features Fitzgerald’s work alongside other classroom materials preserved in the Fulton County Schools Archives Teaching Aids Collection, which brought—and continues to bring—this important history to life for a new generation of students.

Curiosity in the Classroom: A Closer Look

Click on the image above-left for a higher resolution jpeg. Ask students to carefully and quietly study the image.

Ask students:
- What do you see?
- What do you see that makes you say that?
- When was this photograph taken? What do you see that makes you say that?
- Where was this photograph taken? What do you see that makes you say that?
- Who are these individuals and what are they doing?
- Who might have taken this photo?
- Why was this photo taken?

After prompting student observations and curiosity, guide students through discovering answers to their questions through the text on this main page and provided links.