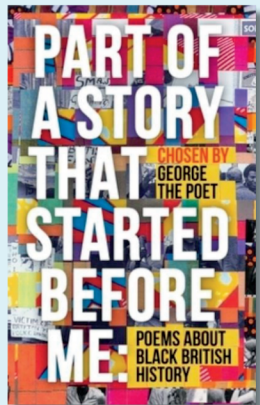


## Part of a Story that Started Before Me

chosen by George the Poet

# BOOK TALK CARDS



### ABOUT THE BOOK

An incredible roster of Black British poets including Benjamin Zephaniah, Casey Bailey and Malika Booker, taking the reader on a journey through Black British history.



### OUR THOUGHTS

"This is a fantastic schools resource. It's a wide ranging collection of poems effectively illuminating aspects of Black British history with useful guidance and notes for context."

## KS3

### THEMES:

- Justice
- History
- Perspective
- Power

### TIME TO TALK

- 1 'Mixed Messages' talks about a conflict of wanting the public to understand the present in the context of the past. How far towards acknowledging this do you think we have come? Can you describe examples of work still left to do?
- 2 Is knowledge empowering? When can it be a source of conflict in some of the examples given?
- 3 Can you give any examples of where you have been able to learn from history? Either within your family, or via school?
- 4 'Bed of Roses' creates vivid imagery... 'texture of her trust' / 'silk sheets adjust your dreams' / 'cloudy footsteps, toes curled in the rain'. How do images like this help the reader to engage with the poem? Can you add any visual imagery of your own?
- 5 How do the prepositions in 'An Angel's Tide' help to structure the thoughts in the poem?
- 6 'Our DNA empowers us'. Do you agree? Has this always been the case? Has the 'empowerment' always been positive?
- 7 'We're all alone in this together' – this is a strange statement, but perhaps one you can relate to? How can you feel alone and together at the same time?
- 8 What does the national anthem mean to you? Do you think it should be changed to become more inclusive?

### TAKE THE TEXT FURTHER WITH OUR TOP 5 TITLES TO CONTINUE THE THEME:

