

## KS2 - BLACK ADVENTURERS AND EXPLORERS



Matthew Henson was one of the era's few **African-American** explorers, and he may have been the first **man, black or white**, to **reach the North Pole**. His gruelling adventures alongside U.S. Navy engineer Robert E. Peary are chronicled in these dramatic early photos.

Henson was born in 1866, on August 8.<sup>23 Feb 2018</sup>

[Matthew Henson, Pioneering Black Polar Explorer, in Historic Pictures](#)

[www.nationalgeographic.com > news](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/news)



### **Saray Khumalo**

**Saray Khumalo** (born 1972) is a Zambia-born South African explorer and mountaineer. In May 2019, she became the first black African woman to reach the summit of [Mount Everest](#).<sup>[1][2][3][4][5]</sup>



### **Sibusiso Vilane**

Having endured ferocious snow storms and frigid temperatures, Sibusiso Vilane climbed his way into the record books in 2003, becoming the first black African to conquer Mount Everest.

In January 2008, Vilane became the first black African to walk completely unassisted to the South Pole -- "unassisted" meaning that Vilane, along

Teddy Seymour is the first black man to sail [around the world](#) solo.



Teddy Seymour on the hull of *Love Song*.

Another African-American, Teddy Seymour had, at the time, already sailed solo around the world, but he travelled through the Suez Canal and the Panama Canal, which was considered an easier route.

On June 19, 1987, Teddy Seymour became officially designated the first black man to sail around the world when he completed his solo sailing circumnavigation in [Frederiksted, St. Croix](#), of the [United States Virgin Islands](#).