

Black History 365

September: September is Sickle Cell Awareness Month. Sickle Cell Disease affects nearly 100,000 people in the U.S., mainly Black and African American people. The disease occurs among about 1 of every 500 Black or African American births. For resources and to learn more, visit the [Sickle Cell Disease Association of America](#).

Readings



Soar: A Memoir by Gail Campbell Woolley and Nick Chiles

When Gail Campbell Woolley was seven, a pediatrician told her mother that Gail suffered from sickle cell anemia, a rare blood disease, and that she would be dead by age thirty-five. Gail decided to live an eventful, exciting life that included academic success, an impressive career, and a long and loving marriage.

Soar, written in the last two years of her life, is Woolley's powerfully inspiring story, and its publication checks the last item off her extraordinary bucket list, which also included traveling to every continent except Antarctica. Woolley's remarkable story not only will move readers to root for this irrepressible, quietly heroic woman but also will push readers to reassess their own approach to life.



At what age are symptoms of Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) typically first noticed?

- At birth
- 5 - 6 months old
- 5 - 7 years old
- Adulthood

Answer: 5 - 6 months old (National Blood, Lung and Heart Institute)



Multimedia

- [Parent and Caregiver Handbook for Sickle Cell](#)
- [The Sickle Cell Podcast](#) by Sickle Cell 101



Movies / Documentaries

- [Walk By Faith](#) (2014), the story of Corey, a teen with sickle cell
- [Down By the River](#) (2012), a movie about a family dealing with sickle cell disease



TV / Videos

- [Living with Sickle Cell Anemia](#) (PBS documentary)
- [Sickle Cell: The Enemy Within](#) (BBC Africa Eye documentary)



Jams

Songs of hope selected by youth affected by sickle cell disease

- [Me and U](#) (Tems)
- [Waka Waka](#) (Shakira)
- [Happiness](#) (Sarz w/Asake and Gunna)