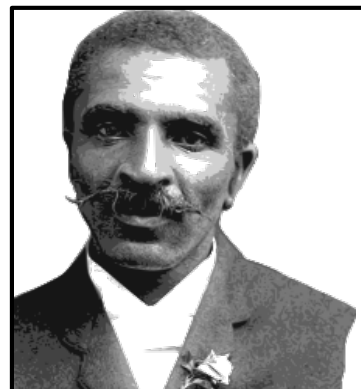


Name _____

Date _____

Who was Best Known for his Work with Peanuts?

George Washington Carver was born around January, 1864 in Diamond, Missouri. He was born into slavery during the Civil War. While still a baby George was kidnapped by slave raiders. He was eventually returned to his owners, Moses Carver and his wife Susan, who would raise him as their own child. As a child he was sickly and mostly worked around the house and tended the garden where he wandered through nature learning about plants.



1864 - January, 1943

After the Civil War and the end of slavery, Carver's former masters continued to raise George, as they had no children of their own. Susan Carver taught him to read and write. Eager to continue his studies, Carver searched everywhere for schools that would allow black students. Eventually, he graduated from high school in Minneapolis, Kansas. After school, he started his own laundry business in Olathe, Kansas. He tried for years to go to college, but was rejected repeatedly because of his race. In time, he was able to enroll in Simpson College, in Indianola, Iowa. He was only the second African-American to have enrolled there.

He earned a Master Degree in Botany, and researching all he could about plants and fungi. He went on to teach at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. Tuskegee Institute was an all black college opened by Booker T. Washington. George Washington Carver would teach classes there for the rest of his life.



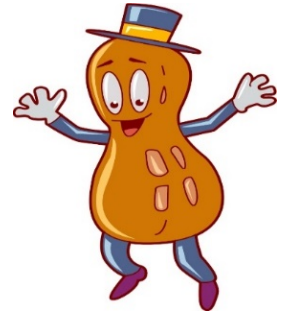
Carver dedicated much of his time to helping African American farmers. Farming was difficult, and he used his knowledge of plants to teach them how to keep nutrients in the soil using crop rotation, where cotton would be rotated with other plants to keep the soil fertile. He experimented with many plants and found new uses for them. George Washington Carver became a famous botanist, and was named a member of the Royal Society of Arts in England. He is best known for his work with peanuts. He invented many new uses for

peanut products including cooking oil, dyes for clothing, plastics, fuel for cars, and peanut butter. He convinced Congress to place a tax peanuts from China, to help American peanut farmers.



George Washington Carver died in 1943 and left all his money to the Tuskegee Institute to encourage the education of other African Americans.

Answer These Questions



1. George Washington Carver born in _____.

- A. Texas
- B. Mississippi
- C. Missouri
- D. Kansas

2. Where did George Washington Carver go to college?

- A. Yale
- B. Timpone College
- C. Princeton University
- D. Simpson College

3. In which field did Carver earn his master's degree?

- A. Literature
- B. Arts
- C. Education
- D. Botany

4. Which method of planting did he teach farmers to maintain the nutrients in the soil?

- A. crop selection
- B. natural selection
- C. evolution
- D. crop rotation

5. George Washington Carver was best known for his work with _____.

- A. peanuts
- B. watermelons
- C. potatoes
- D. corn

