

Black People's History in STEM

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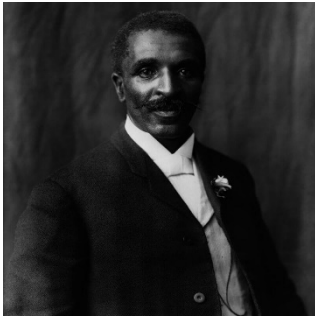
African Americans have battled for equal rights for generations, one of which is the right to an equal education. Many people think that African Americans have an equal or even better chance than other students to receive an education. This is not true because African American kids typically come from hard, impoverished environments and families with shattered homes find it challenging to pursue higher education because they lack the necessary information.

I want to start off by listing some Black innovators and inventors with some of their pictures, who in their time had positive impacts on the world with their STEM careers. Career in STEM for these people brought about different discoveries and inventions and they had a lot of significant researches from their different fields as Scientists, Engineers and Mathematicians. They are:

- + Dr. Marie M. Daly: They truly believed that Dr. Marie M. Daly was the first Black woman to obtain a Ph.D. in chemistry in a sort of significant way in the United States. She pursued a career in biochemistry (study of the chemical processes within and related to living organisms) expressly using her degree. Contrary to common assumption, a large portion of her work effectively contributed to what we currently know about excessive cholesterol and its connection to heart disease. She also went on to become a professor and taught biochemistry courses at Albert Einstein College, which clearly demonstrates that, unlike what is generally believed, chemistry is very much alive and well in the United States.



- + George Washington Carver: One of the most well-known African Americans to invent was George Washing Carver, who was raised in slavery before enrolling as the first Black student at Iowa State Agricultural College. He is primarily known for his over 300 peanut uses. Some of these included soaps, paper, flour, paste, and even medications.



- + Lyda Newman: A new form of hairbrush that was clearly designed exclusively for African American hair was invented by Lyda Newman. Instead of the usual animal hair, it actually contains synthetic special bristles. Her invention considerably lowered the cost and time required to produce hair brushes. She was the third Black lady to ever acquire a patent. She was also a notable women's rights activist.
- + Katherine Johnson: Katherine Johnson essentially served as a "human computer" for NASA, solving exceptionally challenging math issues. She became considerably more active in several other programmes and asked a lot of questions. In essence, Johnson then joined a different NASA task team where she "mapped the path for the Freedom 7, the spacecraft that literally put the first American astronaut in space."



- + Vivien Thomas: At Vanderbilt University, Vivien Thomas began his career by working in a lab. There, he basically learnt a great deal of quite difficult surgical procedures, which is extremely important. He was paid as a janitor when he was employed at this facility, despite the fact that he was primarily engaged in remarkable PhD research that was quite significant. Thomas continued and eventually developed a procedure that would successfully save the lives of newborns who, for the most part, were born with a cardiac defect that causes blood to flow slightly beyond their lungs. He eventually progressed to become the director of John Hopkins' Surgical Research Laboratories.

These Black people accomplished generally great things during the period where racism and discrimination were at their peak, they held through and kept going even when people hated them for who they were in a really major way. We still sometimes face racism in today's world, but if they could do those sorts of great things when times were way harder, why can't we do them now? If for the most part, you were to take anything away from this essay, it should be that you definitely shouldn't let people's hate get to you and stop you from doing great things.

Thank you.

References are from "Engineering for kids" and "Orlando Science Center".