

Name _____

Date _____

3rd Grade Social Studies Historical Figures



Mary McLeod Bethune (1875-1955), an African American teacher, was one of the great educators of the United States. She was a leader of women, a distinguished adviser to several American presidents, and a powerful champion of racial equality.

Directions: Read the story about Mary McLeod Bethune and then complete the following statements using the 16 answers in this work bank:

eight	eleven	50	three	South Carolina
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Moody Bible College	May 18, 1955
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Scotia Seminary	Rollins College
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Africa	Director	Daytona	statue
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Special Advisor on Minority Affairs

National Council of Negro Women

Bethune-Cookman

- Mary Jane McLeod was the 15th of 17 children born to former slaves in Mayesville, _____ on July 10, 1875.
- Mary started going to school when she was about _____ years old.
- Attending school and getting an education was very important to Mary. We know this because she was willing to walk a total of _____ miles every day to attend school.
- After attending school a few years, Mary was chosen to receive a scholarship at _____ in North Carolina.
- Later she received another scholarship to attend _____ in Chicago, where she was the only African-American student.
- After graduation Mary began teaching in Chicago. During this time she also worked in the community, went to visit prisoners in jail, serve lunches to the homeless, and work with residents of the slums. She even applied to go to _____ as a missionary, but her application was rejected.
- Following her rejection from mission work, Mary moved to Florida. Here she met and married Albertus Bethune and began teaching school. In 1904 with only \$1.50 saved, she began a school for girls in _____, Florida.
- Her new school, called the Daytona Literary and Industrial School for Training Negro Girls, began with just 5 girls. She charged tuition of _____ cents a week.

9. With her unshakable faith and remarkable organizational skills, Mrs. Bethune was able to move her school to a permanent home within just _____ years.
10. As time passed she was able to expand her school to a high school, a junior college, and finally she merged her school with an all-boy school and it became known as _____ College.
11. Mrs. Bethune understood that it was important to become politically active so she founded the _____, served as President Franklin Roosevelt's _____, and was the _____ of the Division of Negro Affairs of the National Youth Administration, making her the first African-American woman to become the head of a federal agency.
12. In 1949 she became the first African-American to receive an honorary degree from a white southern college when she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from _____.
13. Mary McLeod Bethune died in Daytona, Florida on _____.
14. On July 10, 1974, ninety-nine years after her birth, Mary McLeod Bethune became the first African-American woman to be honored with a _____ in a public park in Washington, D.C.



Visitors enjoy the statue of Mary McLeod Bethune in Washington, D.C.