

6th Grade Mathematicians Research Project

Objective: The purpose of this assignment is to acquaint students with the history of a famous african-american mathematician and discover his/her contributions to modern mathematics. It is important to focus on the networks of communications that were developed between many of these people. The student should examine the background and living conditions of the mathematician. The student should examine what drove these scholars and other interests they may have had. The student should also explore the most interesting aspects of the person researched. The student should make note of the time period in which the mathematician made their contributions, and what else was happening from a historical vantage point. The student should highlight the main contributions to mathematics the mathematician made, then focus on one to research further and get the best understanding of. This contribution to mathematics will be the main focus of the student's poster board along with an overview of the mathematician's background.

Requirements:

- Write a 6 paragraph double-spaced paper (in addition to the title page and work cited) in 12 point Times New Roman font, with one inch margins, on a famous mathematician.
- The report must include the following information:
 - o Dates of birth and death of the mathematician
 - o Places of birth and death
 - o Living conditions as a child/family life
 - o Educational background
 - o Additional biographical information where applicable
 - o Most significant contribution(s) to the field of mathematics
 - o Relevance of contribution(s) to mathematics today
 - o Articles used attached/emailed

DIRECTIONS: 1. Complete research to learn about a famous african-american mathematician, and a poster board highlighting the biography of the mathematician and emphasizing one of their greatest contributions to modern mathematics (choose one you can best understand) 2. Each person must complete his/her own research and complete the "Let Me Introduce You" form. All quotes and information must be cited accurately and correctly. Please list the website URL and print or email article. At least 3 different sources are to be used. 3. Create a poster board to present your research, all posters must include the information from the Mathematician Biography outline worksheet. Your main feature of the poster is your mathematician's greatest contribution to modern mathematics. Poster board—Use pictures, words, maps, and symbols to create a poster about the mathematician. 4. Complete and present the project during the math expo on March 6th.

Title Page

1. Name of the mathematician
2. Picture of the mathematician (if available)
3. Dates of birth and death of the mathematician
4. Your name and class
5. Date the paper is due

THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN RESEARCHING AND WRITING PAPER (Paragraph for each)

Childhood

1. Where and when your mathematician was born
2. Information about your mathematician as a child and about her/his family
3. Her/his early education (Before college)
4. How her/his childhood may have affected her/his math career

Education

1. Where did your mathematician get her/his education as a young adult and in adulthood
2. What was her/his education like
3. How did her/his education affect her/his math career

Adult Life

1. How did your mathematician's adult life include math
2. What were some of her/his accomplishments in math
3. Was your mathematician famous for anything outside of the world of math

How The World Has Been Affected

1. Accomplishments that make your mathematician famous
2. How did your mathematician's accomplishments affect other mathematicians
3. Did she/he have any famous inventions or math formulas
4. How did her/his work in math affect us today
5. Famous quotes by your mathematician
6. Anything else you find relevant, interesting, or important about your mathematician

Rubric

	Below Basic (0)	Basic (1-2)	Proficient (2-3)	Advanced (4-5)	Score (0-5)
Title Page	No Title Page	1-2 items included	3-4 items included	All 5 items included	
Childhood	Not included	1-2 items included	3-4 items included	All items included with additional information	
Education	Not included	1 item included	2 items included	All items included with additional information	
Adult Life	Not included	1 item included	2 items included	All items included with additional information	
How the world was affected	Not included	1-2 items included	3-4 items included	5 or all items included(that apply) with additional information	
Works Cited	Not included	1 article cited	2 articles cited	3 articles	
Use of pictures/ animations/ drawings	No pictures/animations/drawings used	Blurry, small picture, or simple drawing included	Clear picture, drawing and/or animations included	Multiple clear pictures, drawing and/or animations included	

Assessment Rubric:

- _____ 15 pts. Complete the "Let Me Introduce You" form
- _____ 40 pts. Final paper includes all research and rubric
- _____ 25 pts. Individual Effort Given During Class Work Time
- _____ 25 pts. Quality of Poster/Powerpoint (Organization, creativity, information displayed)
- _____ 100 pts. (Total points)

Name: _____

Due Date: _____

“LET ME INTRODUCE YOU”

Take notes on the following outline to research your mathematician. (Can be typed or handwritten)

A. Vital Statistics (Name, Lifespan, Birthplace, Age at Death)

B. Three historic world events that occurred during his/her life (Hint:Google dates they were alive + historic events)

C. Education

D. Marital and Family Status

E. Occupations

F. Three Contributions to Mathematics

G. Two interesting events from his/her life

H. Works Cited Sources (make sure to indicate which information came from which resource)

G.Additional Notes

Mathematicians

1. Benjamin Banneker (1731-1806)
2. Fern Hunt (1948-Present)
3. Mark Dean (1957-Present)
4. Elbert Frank Cox (1895-1969)
5. Katherine Johnson (1918-Present)
6. Valerie Thomas (1943-Present)
7. Lonnie Johnson (1949-Present)
8. John Urschel (1991-Present)
9. Euphemia Lofton Haynes (1890–1980)
10. Annie Easley (1933-2011)
11. Mae Carol Jemison
12. Dudley Weldon Woodard
13. Bob Moses (algebra project)
14. Freeman Hrabowski
15. Scott W. Williams produced the website, *Mathematicians of the African Diaspora*
16. Clarence F. Stephens
17. William Schieffelin Claytor
18. Silvio A Bedini (1999)
19. Charles Lewis Reason (1818-1893)
20. Kelly Miller (1863-1939)
21. **David Blackwell (April 24, 1919 – July 8, 2010)**
22. **J. Ernest Wilkins, Jr. (November 27, 1923 – May 1, 2011)**
23. **Evelyn Boyd Granville (May 1, 1924 –)**
24. **Marjorie Lee Browne (September 9, 1914 – October 19, 1979)**
25. **Albert Turner Bharucha-Reid (November 13, 1927 – February 26, 1985)**

26. **William A. Massey (1956 –**

<https://famous-mathematicians.com/10-famous-black-mathematicians-and-their-contributions/>

<https://mashupmath.com/blog/famous-african-american-mathematicians>

<https://sciencestruck.com/famous-african-american-mathematicians>