Teacher Workbooks
Social Studies Series

Government

Society

Climate

Culture

Language Arts Integration -
Beginning Level
Biographies of African-Americans, Vol. 1
Teachnology Publishing Company
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Standard
Social Studies programs should include experiences that provide for the study of people, places, and environments .................................................................1-30
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Marion Anderson

According to some sources, Marion Anderson was born on February 17, 1902. However, her death certificate lists her date of birth as February 27, 1897. Marion loved to sing as a young girl. Eventually, her talent was recognized by tenor Roland Hayes. Hayes served as a mentor in Marion’s developing career. After many years of hard work and learning, Marion became the first African American to sing at the Metropolitan Opera. She made this appearance on January 7, 1955.

Directions:
Read the text below. Write a summary of the information. Write in complete sentences and remember to proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.
Marion Anderson

Marion Anderson was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She loved to sing and developed her voice for many years. In 1955, at age 57, Marion was invited to perform at the Metropolitan Opera’s production of Giuseppe Verdi’s Un Ballo in Machere. Her performance signified the very first time an African American individual ever sung at the Met. After years of performing, Anderson held her final concert in Philadelphia in 1965. After her retirement, Anderson lived in Connecticut and Oregon. Marion Anderson died in 1993.
Marion Anderson

Marion Anderson was known as an individual who possessed grace and dignity. Her singing career spanned over 40 years. At age 57, Anderson became the first African American individual to perform at the Metropolitan Opera. She retired in 1965 with a final concert held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. After retirement, Anderson moved to Connecticut and then to Portland, Oregon. Anderson died of congestive heart failure in 1993. Following her death, over 2,000 people attended a memorial service held at Carnegie Hall in New York City, New York.
Maya Angelou

Known today as one of the most wonderful contemporary literature composers, Maya Angelou is truly a remarkable individual. She is much more than an author. She is an actress, playwright, director, producer, historian, educator, poet, and civil rights activist. Dr. Angelou is a person of grace and dignity. She travels the world over to spread her ideals and thoughts reflected through her 12 best selling books.

1. Describe Maya Angelou.

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

2. How or of this text feel about Dr. Angelou?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

3. If given an opportunity to meet Dr. Angelou, would you like to? Why or why not?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
Directions:
Read the text below. Answer each question that follows in a complete sentence.
Remember to proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou was born Marguerite Johnson on April 4, 1928. She was born and raised in segregated St. Louis, Arkansas. She overcame racial inequalities that existed during her childhood to become a historian, producer, director, author, poet, playwright, and civil-rights activist. Dr. Angelou travels and lectures worldwide. She is the author of ten best selling books and periodical publications. These publications have earned her National Book Award nominations. In 1993, Maya Angelou composed and delivered a speech during former President Bill Clinton’s first inauguration.

1. What name was Maya Angelou born with?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

2. Was Dr. Angelou able to overcome adversity? Explain your answer.
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

3. Where can Dr. Angelou’s ideas and lectures be heard?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

4. Would you like to meet Dr. Angelou if given the opportunity? Why or why not?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou is a fascinating African American. She has written ten best selling books and many periodical articles. The basis of all her thoughts and beliefs is that the duty of being human is love and is to love. Dr. Angelou started her career in drama and dance. Today she travels the globe lecturing. Dr. Angelou speaks four languages: French, Italian, Spanish, and West Fanti. She wrote and delivered a speech during former President Clinton’s first inauguration.

1. How is Maya Angelou described in this text?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

2. What is her underlying belief of all humanity?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

3. Where does Dr. Angelou lecture?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

4. If you had the opportunity, would you like to meet Dr. Angelou? Why or why not?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________
Crispus Attucks

Crispus Attucks was the first person to die in what was to be the American Revolution. Earlier in his life, Attucks escaped slavery and worked as a merchant seaman for twenty years. Responding to a plea from Samuel Adams to demonstrate against British troops, Attucks joined the front line. Armed with clubs, snowballs, and sticks he marched with approximately 40-50 other Patriots toward British soldiers. After an order to fire, rifles began to fire from the British troops. Attucks was the very first individual to fall and die for American freedom in what became known as the Boston Massacre on the night of March 5, 1770. Despite controversy regarding Attucks actions, he has become known as a true martyr.

1. What event did Crispus Attucks participate in?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

2. What job did Attucks do for at least twenty years?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

3. Explain the difference between the weapons used by Patriots and British troops.

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

4. What is a martyr?

______________________________________________________________________________
Directions:
Read the text below. Write a summary of the information. Write in complete sentences and remember to proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Benjamin Banneker

George Washington originally hired a Frenchman to design what is currently the United States capital. Benjamin Banneker was part of the planning committee. After the Frenchman walked away from the job with all the plans, Benjamin Banneker salvaged the designs. Within the next two days, Banneker replicated, from memory, all the layouts and plans of buildings, streets, and parks.
Directions: Read the text below. Write a summary of the information. Write in complete sentences and remember to proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

**Benjamin Banneker**

Benjamin Banneker was born in 1731. At the time in American history, the mother determined status of free/slave. Banneker’s mother was free therefore, he was too. Banneker attended a Quaker run elementary school. As he got older, he began to adopt Quaker thoughts and habits. He also began to develop and invent. He designed a wheat field that helped feed American troops during the Revolutionary War. Banneker was also interested in astronomy and studied the topic. He predicted an eclipse that did occur. He also published a Farmer’s Almanac from 1792 through 1802. Banneker died in 1806.
Directions:
Read the text below. Write a summary of the information. Write in complete sentences and remember to proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Benjamin Banneker

Benjamin Banneker was born on November 9, 1731 in Maryland. Although a modest farmer, Banneker achieved much more. He had a keen eye and a creative mind. For example, Banneker took apart and drew all the components of a borrowed pocket watch. He then reassembled it and returned the fully operational watch. Next, he carved large replicas of each part out of wood. Ultimately, after calculating gears and relationships among the gears he made a wooden clock that worked for the next 50 years. Banneker spent just about his entire life in the Ellicott City/Oella region of Maryland.
Directions:
Visit the web link below. Use the web link to answer the questions that follow. Remember to answer in complete sentences. Proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Benjamin Banneker

www.progress.org/banneker/bb.html

1. When and where was Benjamin Banneker born?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

2. How long did the wooden watch he created work?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

3. What was Washington, D. C. once known as?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

4. What happened in 1980 to commemorate Banneker?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
Directions:
Visit the web link below. Use the web link to answer the questions that follow. Remember to answer in complete sentences. Proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Benjamin Banneker

www.progress.org/banneker/bb.html

1. Describe what Banneker did with the watch he borrowed.

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

2. What did Banneker begin to study at age 58?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

3. What did Banneker like to predict?

______________________________________________________________________________

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Directions:
Visit the web link below. Use the web link to answer the questions that follow.
Remember to answer in complete sentences. Proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Benjamin Banneker

www.progress.org/banneker/bb.html

1. What did Banneker take part in what is now Washington, D.C.?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

2. What is the ephemeris?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

3. How old was Banneker when he died?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

4. When was the site of Banneker’s home located?

______________________________________________________________________________
Directions:
Visit the web link below. Use the web link to answer the questions that follow. Remember to answer in complete sentences. Proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Benjamin Banneker
www.inventorsmuseum.com/benjamin_banneker.htm

1. How did Banneker feel about the workings of things?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

2. What words in the second paragraph describe Benjamin Banneker?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

3. What kind of farm did Banneker grow up on?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

4. What did Banneker develop for his family’s farm?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
February Holidays: Black History Month

Directions:
Visit the web link below. Use the web link to answer the questions that follow. Remember to answer in complete sentences. Proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Benjamin Banneker

www.inventorsmuseum.com/benjamin_banneker.htm

1. Describe what Banneker did with his friend’s watch.

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

2. What did Banneker do for American Revolution soldiers?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

3. Who taught Banneker astronomy?

______________________________________________________________________________

4. How did Banneker learn astronomy?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________
Directions:
Visit the web link below. Use the web link to answer the questions that follow. Remember to answer in complete sentences. Proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Benjamin Banneker
www.inventorsmuseum.com/benjamin_banneker.htm

1. What did Benjamin design for his family’s farm?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

2. How did Banneker feel about how things worked?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

3. Where did Banneker get the books he used to learn about astronomy?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

4. Who recommended Banneker to be a member of the national capital’s planning committee?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
Directions:
Visit the web link below. Use the web link to answer the questions that follow. Remember to answer in complete sentences. Proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Benjamin Banneker

www.inventorsmuseum.com/benjamin_banneker.htm

1. What was unique about Banneker’s cabin?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

2. Where were Banneker’s solar and lunar eclipse predictions published?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

3. Who was the original architect hired to design the national capitol?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

4. What agency commemorated Banneker with a stamp in 1980?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
James Pierson Beckwourth

African American James Pierson Beckwourth played a major part in exploration and development of the American West. Many people of many nationalities and races helped blaze the frontier. However, Beckwourth was the only African American to record his travels from Florida to the Pacific and Canada to Mexico. Beckwourth’s first autobiography resulted from Beckwourth himself dictating his story to a Justice of the Peace named Thomas D. Bonner. This first recording of Beckwourth’s adventures occurred in a Californian gold field sometime in 1854-1855.
James Pierson Beckwourth

James Beckwourth dictated his autobiography to a Justice of the Peace in a Californian gold field in 1854-1855. Thomas D. Bonner edited Beckwourth’s story The Life and Adventures of James P. Beckwourth, Mountaineer, Scout, and Pioneer, and Chief of the Crow Nation of Indians. Harper and Brothers then published it, in 1856. Beckwourth is known for his exploration of the American West. He is also known as the first African American to record his experiences as he traveled from Florida to the Pacific Ocean and Canada to Mexico.
James Pierson Beckwourth

James P. Beckwourth had an adventurous spirit. He blazed his way from the Florida Everglades to the Pacific Ocean. He also explored and mountaineered his way from the southern border of Canada to northern Mexico. He was known for his ability to tell good stories. This ability was a valued virtue during early exploration and was almost as highly regarded as woodsmanship and marksmanship.

Directions:
Read the text below. Write a summary of the information. Write in complete sentences and remember to proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.
February Holidays: Black History Month

Social Studies programs should include experiences that provide for the study of people, places, and environments.

James Beckwourth

http://www.beckwourth.org/Trail/index.html

1. Who discovered what is known today as Beckwourth Pass?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

2. When was the Beckwourth Pass discovered?

______________________________________________________________________________

3. In what year did the first wagon train travel through the Beckwourth Pass?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

4. What method of transportation took the place of the wagon train?

______________________________________________________________________________

5. What word(s) could the term supplanted be replaced with?

______________________________________________________________________________

Directions:
Read the text below. Write a summary of the information. Write in complete sentences and remember to proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.
Directions: Read the text below. Write a summary of the information. Write in complete sentences and remember to proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

James Beckwourth

http://www.beckwourth.org/Trail/index.html

1. Where did Beckwourth live?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

2. Why did the Beckwourth Trail not run along Feather River Canyon?

______________________________________________________________________________

3. What two states did the Beckwourth Trail pass?

______________________________________________________________________________

4. What do the maroon lines represent on the map?

______________________________________________________________________________

5. When did people stop using Beckwourth Trail heavily?

______________________________________________________________________________
Directions:  
Read the text below. Write a summary of the information. Write in complete sentences and remember to proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Mary McLeod Bethune

Mary McLeod Bethune demonstrated continual strive toward equality among all individuals, despite race or gender. She valued and encouraged education of all people. She held and employed consistent influence in the political arena to help attain equality. Mary McLeod loved all individuals and held principles of unrestricted and universal love. Despite a childhood filled with poverty and injustice, Mary McLeod flourished as a political activist, presidential advisor, and educator.
Mary McLeod Bethune

http://nps.gov/mamc/bethune/meet/main.htm

1. What did Mary McLeod Bethune continually strive for?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

2. Describe the conditions that Mary McLeod Bethune grew up under.

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

3. Where and by whom did Mrs. Bethune get her education?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

4. What did Mrs. Bethune believe was necessary in the fight for equal rights?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

Directions:
Visit the web link below. Use the web link to answer the questions that follow. Remember to answer in complete sentences. Proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.
Directions:
Visit the web link below. Use the web link to answer the questions that follow. Remember to answer in complete sentences. Proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Mary McLeod Bethune

http://nps.gov/mamc/bethune/meet/main.htm

1. Describe Mrs. Bethune’s parents.

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

2. Mrs. Bethune was part of how many children?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

3. Describe at least two roles that Mrs. Bethune had.

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

4. What did Mrs. Bethune believe could be used in the fight for equality among all individuals?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________
Directions:
Visit the web link below. Use the web link to answer the questions that follow.
Remember to answer in complete sentences. Proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Mary McLeod Bethune

http://nps.gov/mamc/bethune/meet/main.htm

1. Describe Mary McLeod Bethune.

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

2. Would you have liked to have met Mrs. Bethune? Why or why not?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

3. What did Mrs. Bethune strive for her entire life?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

4. When did Mrs. Bethune die, and how old was she?

______________________________________________________________________________
Directions:
Visit the web link below. Use the web link to answer the questions that follow. Remember to answer in complete sentences. Proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Mary McLeod Bethune

http://nps.gov/mamc/bethune/meet/main.htm

1. Where and when was Mary McLeod born?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

2. Who were Mary’s parents?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

3. Who were Mary’s parents?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

4. What did Mrs. Bethune strive for during her lifetime?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________
Directions:
Visit the web link below. Use the web link to answer the questions that follow. Remember to answer in complete sentences. Proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Mary McLeod Bethune

http://nps.gov/mamc/bethune/meet/main.htm

1. Where did Mary McLeod Bethune grow up?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

2. What living conditions did Mary experience as a child?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

3. What did Mrs. Bethune recognize as an outcome of her own education?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

4. What term is used in this article to describe how Mrs. Bethune worked toward equal rights among all individuals?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________
Directions: Visit the web link below. Use the web link to answer the questions that follow. Remember to answer in complete sentences. Proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Mary McLeod Bethune

http://nps.gov/mamc/bethune/meet/main.htm

1. Who was Mary McLeod Bethune? Name at least three roles.

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

2. How did Mrs. Bethune work toward human rights?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

3. What institution did Mrs. Bethune found in 1904?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

4. In what state is Daytona located?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________
Directions:
Visit the web link below. Use the web link to read the paragraph on Mary McLeod Bethune. Write a summary on Mrs. Bethune. Include at least four to eight complete sentences. Remember to proofread for correct spelling and punctuation.

Mary McLeod Bethune

http://nps.gov/mamc/bethune/meet/main.htm
Answers

Pages 1-3
Answers will vary.

Page 4
1. diverse, remarkable
2. positive; Answers will vary.
3. Answers will vary.

Page 5
1. Marguerite Johnson
2. yes, attained abilities
3. worldwide
4. Answers will vary.

Page 6
1. fascinating person
2. duty to love
3. worldwide; around the globe
4. Answers will vary.

Page 7
1. American Revolution or Boston Massacre
2. merchant; seaman
3. Patriots; clubs, sticks, snowballs
British troops; firearms
4. person who suffers or dies for a cause

Pages 8-10
Answers will vary.

Page 13
1. 1st survey of area
2. information table
3. 74
4. 1990's

Page 14
1. loved to know how things worked
2. invented spirit
3. tobacco
4. irrigation system

Page 15
1. took apart; drew each part; carved each part out of wood; calculated gear workings; made workable wooden clock
2. designed wheat farm to feed troops
3. he did
4. reading books

Page 16
1. irrigation system
2. loved how things worked
3. borrowed from friends
4. Thomas Jefferson

Page 17
1. had sky light
2. almanac
3. Pierre L'Enfant
4. US Postal Service

Pages 18-20
Answers will vary.

Page 21
1. James Beckwourth
2. spring 1850
3. 1851
4. railroad
5. take the place of

Page 22
1. valley west of the pass
2. too rugged
3. California and Nevada
4. 1955

Page 23
Answers will vary.

Page 24
1. gender and racial equality
2. poverty; oppression
3. missionaries in South Carolina
4. education

Page 25
1. former slaves
2. 15th of 17 children
3. educator, political activist, presidential advisor
4. education

Page 26
1. Answers will vary.
2. Answers will vary.
3. gender; racial equality
4. 1955; 1979

Page 27
1. Mayesville, South Carolina; July 10, 1875
2. Samuel McLeod
3. Patsy McIntosh
4. former slaves

Page 28
1. Reconstruction South
2. poverty; oppression
3. importance of education in equal rights struggle
4. tireless

Page 29
1. presidential advisor; political activist; educator
tirelessly
3. Daytona Educational Industrial School for Negro Girls
4. Florida

Page 30
Answers will vary.