

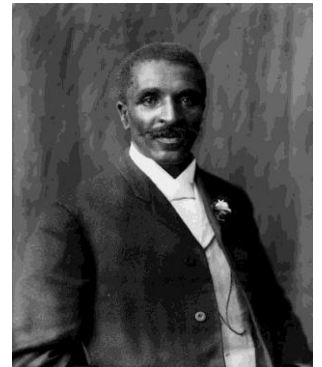
Laugh & Learn

The Peanut Man: The Story of George Washington Carver

Thought for Today

Nature is an unlimited broadcasting station through which God speaks to us every hour if we only will tune in. -- George Washington Carver

After slavery ended, George Washington Carver was America's first black scientist, philosopher, educator, inventor, and botanist. A *botanist* is a scientist who studies plants.



- Carver was born to a slave named Mary on July 12, 1864, in Missouri.
- When a baby, he was kidnapped with his mother and a sister. His owner, Moses Carver, paid a man to find them, but only George was found.
- Moses Carver and his wife Susan raised George and his brother. Susan taught George how to read and write.
- George started studying plants when he was a young boy.
- After he finished high school, he earned a master's degree from Iowa State University, their first black student and later the first black faculty member.
- He soon led the Agriculture Department at Tuskegee University...for 47 years.
- Carver helped poor southern farmers increase their income by promoting the rotation of crops. Carver discovered that certain crops, such as peanuts, sweet potatoes, cowpeas, and soybeans returned proteins and nutrients into the soil. His method of crop rotation saved millions of acres of farmland in the South.
- Carver experimented with peanuts and sweet potatoes. He developed over 300 uses for peanuts alone, including lotion, shaving cream, wood stain, leather and cloth dye, rubbing oil, hair tonic, and even a laxative. He also made food products from peanuts, including peanut butter, vinegar, instant coffee, cocoa, mayonnaise, salad oil, and peanut punch. He developed over 100 uses for sweet potatoes, including flour, sugar, instant coffee, yeast, wood stains, paint, medicine, and meal for livestock.
- He published a collection of peanut recipes.
- To bring educational services to rural farmers, Carver designed a "movable school" called the Jesup Agricultural Wagon. Carver worked to improve the economic status of African Americans.
- God and science were both areas of interest. He said often that his faith in Jesus was the only means by which he could effectively pursue and perform the art of science. Dr. Carver viewed faith in Jesus as a means of destroying both barriers of racial disharmony and social classes. He was as concerned with his students' character development as he was with their intellectual development. He compiled a list of eight virtues for his students to strive toward:
 - Be clean both inside and out.
 - Neither look up to the rich nor down on the poor.
 - Lose, if need be, without squealing.



- Win without bragging.
- Always be considerate of women, children, and older people.
- Be too brave to lie.
- Be too generous to cheat.
- Take your share of the world and let others take theirs.
- In 1921, he received national attention when he spoke before the United States House of Representatives as an agricultural expert.
- George Washington Carver died on January 5, 1943.
- On July 14, 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated the George Washington Carver National Monument in Diamond, Missouri. This was the first national monument dedicated to an African-American and also the first to a non-President. At this 210-acre national monument, there is a statue of Carver, nature trails, a museum, and the 1881 Moses Carver house.



FUN FACTS...Peanuts

- The peanut is not a nut, but a legume related to beans and lentils.
- Peanuts are naturally cholesterol-free.
- Peanuts account for two-thirds of all snack nuts consumed in the USA.
- The average American consumes more than six pounds [nearly 3 kilos] of peanuts and peanut butter products each year.
- Astronaut Allen B. Sheppard brought a peanut with him to the moon.
- Most USA peanut farms are family-owned and -operated.
- The peanut plant originated in South America.
- Peanuts contribute more than \$4 billion to the USA economy each year.
- Americans eat more than 600 million pounds of peanuts (and 700 million pounds of peanut butter) each year.
- Peanuts flower above ground and then migrate underground to reach maturity.
- Two peanut farmers have been presidents of the USA, Thomas Jefferson and Jimmy Carter.

Peanut Butter

- Peanut Butter cookies [right] are an American favorite
- Peanut butter is the leading use of peanuts in the USA.
- It takes about 540 peanuts to make a 12-ounce [340 grams] jar of peanut butter.
- There are enough peanuts in one acre to make 30,000 peanut butter sandwiches.
- Peanut butter was first introduced to the USA in 1904 at the Universal Exposition in St. Louis.
- Peanut butter is consumed in 89 percent of USA households.
- The world's largest peanut butter factory produces 250,000 jars of the tasty treat every day.



- People living on the East Coast prefer creamy peanut butter, while those on the West Coast prefer the crunchy style.
- Arachibutyrophobia is the fear of getting peanut butter stuck to the roof of your mouth.
- The average child will eat 1,500 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches before he/she graduates high school.
- Americans eat enough peanut butter in a year to make more than 10 billion peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

Quiz Time...

What was the name of the school for black students where Carver was a teacher?

Tuskegee University... Iowa State University... Jesup Agricultural University

Carver was not a very good student.

True or False

What does the word "kidnapped" mean?

the money paid to get people back... when people are stolen... when kids take a nap

Carver helped farmers learn how to grow what?

Oranges... peanuts... corn... all of the above

Carver developed how many uses for peanuts?

Nearly 100... More than 300... Nobody knows

The George Washington Carver National Monument is...

The first for an African American in the USA... The first for a non-president... Both of these

Peanuts are in what portion of American snack foods?

One quarter...One half...Two thirds...Tree quarters

The average USA child will eat how many peanut butter and jelly sandwiches?

200... 500... 1000... 1,500

An American Favorite: Peanut Butter Fudge

"This is the best recipe for creamy and delicious peanut butter fudge I have ever used. It is great for sharing at work."

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup butter [115 g]
- 2 1/4 cups brown sugar [495 g]
- 1/2 cup milk [120 ml]
- 3/4 cup peanut butter [195 g]
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract [5 ml]
- 3 1/2 cups confectioners' sugar [420 g]

DIRECTIONS

Melt butter in a saucepan over medium heat. Stir in brown sugar and milk. Bring to a boil and boil for 2 minutes, stirring frequently. Remove from heat. Stir in peanut butter and vanilla. Pour over confectioners' sugar in a large mixing bowl. Beat until smooth; pour into an 8x8 inch dish. Chill until firm and cut into squares.



Answers: Tuskegee, False, when people are stolen, peanuts, 300, Both, Two thirds, 1,500

The Links

How to Make a Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hZjqqbwgesw>



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=igBDPNGT5kA>

Jonas Brothers- When you look me in the eyes (Kara Style) and Skippy Peanut Butter <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ftJYDaprv5E>

George Washington Carver

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RWgjYBFERqI>

The Laughs

Question: You throw away the outside and cook the inside. Then you eat the outside and throw away the inside. What did you eat?

Answer: Corn on the cob: You throw away the husks, then cook it, eat the corn, then throw away the cob.

M&M Peanuts

A grandson goes to the retirement home to meet his grandma. As he is sitting there he notices this bowl of peanuts beside her bed and takes one. As they talk, he can't help himself and eats one after another. By the time they are through talking, the bowl is empty. He says, "Grandma, I'm sorry, but I seem to have eaten all of your peanuts." "That's okay," she says. "They would have just sat there. Without my teeth, all I can do is suck the chocolate off and put them back in the bowl."



The Ten Rules of Chocolate

1. If you've got melted chocolate all over your hands, you're eating it too slowly.
2. Chocolate covered raisins, cherries, orange slices & strawberries all count as fruit, so eat as many as you want.
3. The problem: How to get 2 pounds of chocolate home from the store in a hot car. The solution: Eat it in the parking lot.
4. Diet tip: Eat a chocolate bar before each meal. It'll take the edge off your appetite and you'll eat less.
5. If calories are an issue, store your chocolate on top of the fridge. Calories are afraid of heights, and they will jump out of the chocolate to protect themselves.
6. If you eat equal amounts of dark chocolate and white chocolate, that is a balanced diet?
7. Chocolate has many preservatives. Preservatives make you look younger.
8. Put "eat chocolate" at the top of your list of things to do today. That way, at least you'll get one thing done.
9. A nice box of chocolates can provide your total daily intake of calories in one place. Isn't that handy?
10. If you can't eat all your chocolate, it will keep in the freezer. But if you can't eat all your chocolate, what's wrong with you?



"I don't know about you, but I'm getting tired of fast food."



Diet

Girl: I'd like a triple vanilla ice cream sundae with chocolate syrup, nuts, whipped cream, topped with a slice of cucumber.

Waiter: Did I hear you right? Did you say top it off with a slice of cucumber?

Girl: Good heavens, you're right! Forget the cucumber – I'm on a diet.

The Thermos

Susan walks into a store. Curious about a shiny object, she asks, "What is that?"

The store clerk responds, "It's a thermos."

Susan then asks, "What does it do?"

The clerk says, "It keeps hot things hot and cold things cold."

So she buys one.

The next day, she brings it to work with her. Her boss asks,

"What is that shiny object?"

She replies "It's a thermos."

He asks, "What does it do?"

She says, "It keeps hot things hot and cold things cold."

He then asks, "What do you have in there?"

"Two cups of coffee and an ice cream cone."

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