

DISCOVER AMERICA

Course 20 - Teacher Guide



Booker T. Washington: Pioneering Pathways to Knowledge

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Second Grade Teacher Guide



Key Themes

- Determination
- Equality
- Hard Work
- The Importance of Education

Core Values

- Community
- Life
- Faith
- Liberty

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Identify Booker T. Washington and his contributions to education.
- Explain the importance of education in shaping one's future.
- Define equality.
- Analyze the relationship between hard work, education and success.



Booker T. Washington - Second Grade

Key Terms

- 01 **determination:** a quality that you show when you have decided to do something and you will not let anything stop you.
- 02 **education:** the process of gathering information about the world.
- 03 **equality:** when people are treated the same, regardless of what they look like or where they come from.
- 04 **opportunity:** a situation in which it is possible for you to do something that you want to do.

Booker T. Washington - Second Grade

Introduction

TELL Students

Think about the fun things that you get to do in school today. Make a list of your ten favorite activities to do at school. It is pretty easy to name ten fun things you get to do at school! Seeing your friends, learning new facts, reading new books, visiting the school library and playing on the playground are just a few! There are so many opportunities to learn and have fun at school. An opportunity is a situation in which it is possible for you to do something that you want to do. The opportunity to learn and grow is something that makes our country special.

ASK Students

Why are learning and going to school important?

TELL Students

Today we are going to learn about an important man named Booker T. Washington. Booker T. Washington once said, "If you can't read, it's going to be hard to realize dreams." What do you think this means? Think about your dreams. How will reading help you accomplish them? Booker T. Washington believed in the power of education. Education is the process of gathering information about the world. We are going to learn why education and hard work are important. We are also going to learn about Booker T. Washington's life and impact on education.

WATCH

Star Spangled Adventures Cartoon Ep. 20: Booker T. Washington



Booker T. Washington - Second Grade

Lesson

TELL Students

There was a time in America when some people couldn't go to school or learn to read and write, just because of the color of their skin. That is not fair, is it? After the Civil War, things started to change, but it was still hard for some people to get an education. Reading was a superpower. It meant you could become strong, smart, and do great things in life. Reading is still a superpower! It is the ticket to becoming strong, smart and doing great things in your life.

ASK Students

Why is it important for everyone to go to school?

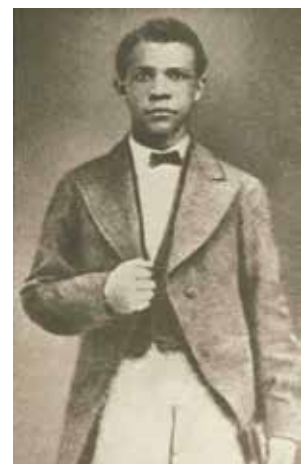
TELL Students

Booker T. Washington understood how important education was for everyone, especially for Black people like him. He was born in 1856, and he had a tough life as a little boy. He was born as a slave on a farm. He didn't know his dad and his mom worked very hard as both a slave and a cook on the farm. Booker's life was like many Black children who lived during this time. He didn't have enough food to eat. He didn't even have a proper bed. He really wanted to learn and go to school, but back then, it was against the law for enslaved people like him to learn how to read and write. Then, something amazing happened. The Union won the Civil War in 1865, and all the enslaved people, including Booker and his family, were freed! Now, he had a chance to go to a school for Black children. But, he had to work before and after school.



Hampton Normal

Young Booker T. Washington



Booker T. Washington - Second Grade

Lesson

ASK Students

What are some obstacles that Booker T. Washington had to overcome to go to school?

TELL Students

One day, he heard about an amazing school called the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute. He really wanted to go to Hampton. So he worked hard and saved his own money. He even walked nearly 500 miles to get there! To get into the school, Booker had to take an entrance exam – but this one didn't have multiple choice questions! Instead, he had to clean a room, which was inspected by the teacher with a white handkerchief to see if he left any dirt or dust behind. Booker passed the test and was accepted into Hampton. At Hampton, he learned many things like reading, farming, good manners, and how to talk in public. He worked hard, graduated with honors in 1875 and was selected to deliver the graduation speech.

ASK Students

What did Booker T. Washington learn at Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute? What happened when Booker T. Washington did his best and worked hard in school?

TELL Students

Booker T. Washington later became the principal of a new school called the Tuskegee Normal School in Alabama. It was supposed to train Black teachers, but at first, the school didn't have much money or a building. However, Booker was determined. Determination is a quality that you show when you have decided to do something and you will not let anything stop you. With the help of the community and the students, the school opened in 1881. The school grew because of the hard work and determination of Booker and the students. They built buildings, made bricks for the buildings and sold bricks for money.

ASK Students

What did Booker T. Washington believe in?

TELL Students

Booker was a very important person. He was even invited by the President to the White House in 1901. Booker passed away in 1915, but his legacy lives on. He showed us that no matter

Booker T. Washington - Second Grade

Lesson

where you come from or what you look like, you can succeed in life with hard work and determination. Today, we have many opportunities, and it is up to us to make the most of them.

ASK Students

Why did Booker T. Washington think education was so important? What does it mean to be determined? Why do you need to work hard in school?

Booker T. Washington – Second Grade

Inspiring Quotes

Objective: To introduce second grade students to the life and values of Booker T. Washington. To explore his inspirational quotes and encourage discussion about the relationship between hard work, education and success.

Materials:

- Quotes from Booker T. Washington (printed on colorful cards).
- Markers, crayons, scissors, glue, tissue paper, beads (any other available art materials).
- Blank sheets of paper.
- Small prizes or stickers (optional).

Introduction:

- Begin by briefly discussing Booker T. Washington and why he is important.
- Show students images from today's lesson and ask them to recall what they learned about Booker T. Washington from the video.

Discussion:

- Engage students in a think-pair-share. Write the following questions on the board. Ask students to think about each question, discuss each with a neighbor and then discuss as a whole class.
 - What did Booker T. Washington believe in?
 - Why is education important?
 - Have you ever had to work hard to learn something new?

Inspiring Quotes Activity:

- Introduce a few quotes from Booker T. Washington, such as:
 - *Nothing ever comes to one, that is worth having, except as a result of hard work.*
 - *If you want to lift yourself up, lift up someone else.*

- *Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome.*
- *Excellence is to do a common thing in an uncommon way.*
- *Character is power.*
- *If you can't read, it's going to be hard to realize dreams.*

Class Discussion:

- Discuss the meaning of each quote with the class. Encourage students to share their interpretations and relate the quotes to their own lives.
- Ask students if they have faced any obstacles in their learning journey and how they overcame them.

Artistic Expression:

- Provide each student with a blank sheet of paper, markers, crayons, beads, glue, scissors, tissue paper and any other available art supplies.
- Ask students to choose one of Booker T. Washington's quotes and create an artistic representation of it.
- Have students write their quote on their paper.
- Allow students to share their artwork with the class and explain why they chose their quote.

Conclusion:

- Summarize the lesson by reinforcing the values of hard work, perseverance, and the importance of education as emphasized by Booker T. Washington.
- Create a "Wall of Inspiration" using each student's art. Encourage students to look at and remember Booker T. Washington's message throughout the week.
- Encourage students to remember these values and apply them in their own lives.

Booker T. Washington - Second Grade Resource List

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/african-americans-and-education-during-reconstruction-the-tolson-s-chapel-schools.htm>

Teddy and Booker T., Brian Kilmeade, 2023

<https://www.nps.gov/bowa/a-birthplace-that-experienced-slavery-the-civil-war-and-emancipation.htm>

<https://www.nps.gov/bowa/learn/photosmultimedia/index.htm>

<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aia/part4/4p2967.html>

<https://www.tuskegee.edu/discover-tu/tu-presidents/booker-t-washington>

<https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/african-american-odyssey/reconstruction.html>

<https://americansall.org/legacy-story-group/jim-crow-laws-alabama-alaska-arizona-and-arkansas>

<https://www.nps.gov/bowa/learn/historyculture/atlanta2-1.htm>

https://huntingtonny.gov/filestorage/13747/99540/16499/Booker_T._Washington.pdf

<https://www.tuskegee.edu/discover-tu/tu-presidents/booker-t-washington>

