

## "A Week in the Life of George Washington Carver" Diary Booklet

### Objective:

Students will create a diary booklet that explores a week in the life of George Washington Carver, focusing on his contributions to agriculture, his innovations in crop rotation, and his development of alternative crops to cotton, such as peanuts, sweet potatoes, and soybeans. The project will integrate key vocabulary to explore Carver's impact on sustainable farming, his role as a pioneering African American scientist and inventor, and his legacy in promoting environmental conservation and education.

### Materials:

- Booklet templates made from folded and stapled paper (with 8 pages including the cover)
- Art supplies (colored pencils, markers, crayons)
- Access to age-appropriate information about George Washington Carver (books, documentaries, approved online resources)
- Vocabulary list focused on Carver's scientific achievements, innovations, and significance as an educator and environmentalist

### Instructions:

#### 1. **Cover Page (1 page):**

- Title: "A Week in the Life of George Washington Carver"
- Area for the student's name
- Illustration box for a drawing related to Carver's work in agriculture, his scientific experiments, or symbols representing his contributions to environmental sustainability

#### 2. **Introduction to George Washington Carver (1 page):**

- Write a brief introduction to George Washington Carver, emphasizing his pioneering work in agricultural science, his advocacy for crop diversification, and his dedication to education and environmental conservation
- Outline the project's objectives and how they will help students understand Carver's innovations and their lasting impact on farming and science

#### 3. **Vocabulary Introduction (1 page):**

- Introduce vocabulary words with child-friendly definitions and connections to George Washington Carver's story
- Vocabulary includes: Botany, Crop Rotation, Innovation, Sustainability, Biodiversity, Conservation, Legumes, Nutrients, Agriculture, Experimentation

#### 4. **Diary Entry Pages (5 pages, one for each weekday):**

- Assign each page to a day, Monday through Friday, imagining a significant week in Carver's career, such as experimenting in his laboratory or teaching students at Tuskegee Institute.
- Students will write a diary entry for each day, using creative storytelling based on real or hypothetical events to depict what Carver might have experienced or felt.

- Encourage the inclusion of at least one vocabulary word in each entry, clearly highlighted.

5. **\*\*Illustrations (integrated into diary pages):\*\***

- Provide space for students to draw an image that complements their diary entry on the same page.
- Illustrations should depict Carver's experiments, his interactions with plants and nature, or his efforts in educating others about agriculture and conservation.

6. **\*\*Reflection (back cover or final page):\*\***

- Invite students to reflect on what they learned about George Washington Carver and the significance of his contributions to science and society.
- Request a few sentences on the importance of the vocabulary words in understanding Carver's work and the impact of his legacy on environmental sustainability and education.

Help Center:

1. **\*\*Cover Page (1 page):\*\***

- Title: "A Week in the Life of George Washington Carver"
- Sentence Frame: "This booklet delves into [the innovation of a scientist/the green legacy of a pioneer], as envisioned by [Student's Name]."
- Illustration Prompt: Sketch George Washington Carver in his laboratory or with a backdrop of crops that symbolizes his impact on agriculture and conservation.

2. **\*\*Introduction to George Washington Carver (1 page):\*\***

- Sentence Frame: "George Washington Carver, a visionary in the field of agricultural science, transformed the way we think about farming, introducing sustainable practices that would benefit both the soil and the farmer."
- Prompt for Further Information: "Carver's belief in education and his commitment to improving the lives of poor farmers underscore the importance of science in solving real-world problems. How does Carver's approach inspire current environmental challenges?"

3. **\*\*Vocabulary Introduction (1 page):\*\***

- Vocabulary Sentence Frames:
  - "Botany is the scientific study of plants. Carver's expertise in botany allowed him to innovate in crop rotation and soil conservation."
  - "Sustainability involves using resources in a way that does not deplete them for future generations. Carver's work with peanuts and sweet potatoes promoted agricultural sustainability."
- Vocabulary Prompt: "Choose a vocabulary word and explain how it relates to George Washington Carver's scientific work and its relevance today."

4. **\*\*Diary Entry Pages (5 pages, one for each weekday):\*\***

- Daily Sentence Frames:

- "On Monday, Carver began a new experiment with [crop], aiming to discover [goal], feeling hopeful about the potential impact on farmers."

- "Tuesday involved teaching students at Tuskegee about the importance of [vocabulary word], sharing his passion for plants and their role in our ecosystem."

- "Wednesday's challenge was to address soil depletion, and Carver dedicated his day to developing [solution], demonstrating his commitment to conservation."

- "Thursday brought a breakthrough in Carver's research on [specific crop or innovation], which could revolutionize sustainable farming practices."

- "By Friday, reflecting on the week's achievements, Carver pondered the future implications of his work, feeling a sense of [emotion] about contributing to a healthier planet."

5. **\*\*Illustrations (integrated into diary pages):\*\***

- Illustration Sentence Frame: "Beside your diary entry, draw an illustration that captures a key moment from Carver's week. Whether it's conducting an experiment, teaching, or in deep thought about his next discovery, showcase the essence of his dedication to science and nature."

6. **\*\*Reflection (back cover or final page):\*\***

- Reflection Sentence Frame: "George Washington Carver's legacy teaches us the importance of [vocabulary word], showing that innovative science and respect for nature can lead to significant advancements. Inspired by his [quality], I am motivated to [action or behavior], understanding that our interactions with the environment have lasting effects."

- Reflection Prompt: "Reflect on an environmental issue you are passionate about. How can Carver's example of scientific exploration and environmental stewardship guide your actions or influence your approach to addressing this issue?"