

Name \_\_\_\_\_ International Women's Day  
Lesson 4: Katherine Johnson - A Top Mathematician for NASA

On the next pages, there are fill-in-the-blank sentences that help show your understanding of the lesson on Katherine Johnson.

You will choose the correct word(s) from the list of words here on page 1.  
Spell correctly. Write neatly.

You can track answers by putting an x beside a word in the list below as you use it.  
Use a pencil so you can erase if it is wrong.

- |                                 |                 |                 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| • degrees                       | • West Virginia | • 33            |
| • adding machines and rulers    | • 101           | • 18            |
| • calculations                  | • geometry      | • moon          |
| • Katherine Johnson             | • white-only    | • African       |
| • Presidential Medal of Freedom | • computer      | • mathematician |
| • Mars                          | • successful    | • space         |
| • astronauts                    | • solve         | • building      |
| • flight                        | • all-Black     |                 |



Please make sure you have registered for a free KBI teacher account if you are using these resources. It helps us immensely and allows the program to remain free for teachers to use.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ International Women's Day  
Lesson 4: Katherine Johnson - A Top Mathematician for NASA

*Fill in the blanks with the correct word(s) provided on page 1.*

\_\_\_\_\_ was an \_\_\_\_\_ American, born in 1918 in \_\_\_\_\_. She had a \_\_\_\_\_-year career as a \_\_\_\_\_ with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). She lived until age \_\_\_\_\_.

She used math skills to work on \_\_\_\_\_ for many famous flights:

- Project Mercury - the first man to fly into \_\_\_\_\_
- 1969's Apollo 11 - the first flight to the \_\_\_\_\_
- the Space Shuttle program (plans for a mission to \_\_\_\_\_)

She finished college at age \_\_\_\_\_ with a special focus on math and geometry. It was really unusual for women of any race to have \_\_\_\_\_ in mathematics. Katherine was hand-selected by West Virginia University when they started to integrate Black students into their previously \_\_\_\_\_ graduate schools. She left school to start a family.

At age 35 Katherine got a position at the \_\_\_\_\_ West Area Computing section at NACA (now called NASA) in a women-only section where they had the job title of \_\_\_\_\_. This is because the women had to solve math problems by themselves, using \_\_\_\_\_. For the next few years, Johnson analyzed data from \_\_\_\_\_ tests.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ International Women's Day  
Lesson 4: Katherine Johnson - A Top Mathematician for NASA

Although reluctant to listen to Johnson at first, co-workers soon realized she had a brilliant mind and was an expert in \_\_\_\_\_ (the study of sizes, shapes, positions, angles, and dimensions of things). They began relying on her to solve their \_\_\_\_\_ problems and review their data.

When computers were first introduced the \_\_\_\_\_ Johnson's incredible math abilities were more than the machines that sometimes had errors. There were many \_\_\_\_\_ space missions thanks to Johnson.

She received a \_\_\_\_\_ in 2015, honouring her accomplishments in paving the way for gender and racial equality as a Black woman in STEM. NASA named a \_\_\_\_\_ after her in her honour. She was 98 at that time.



Please make sure you have registered for a free KBI teacher account if you are using these resources. It helps us immensely and allows the program to remain free for teachers to use.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ International Women's Day  
Lesson 4: Katherine Johnson – A Top Mathematician for NASA

Share any personal reflections from learning about Katherine Johnson. Is anything interesting, inspiring, or surprising? Use any expressive form such as written, image, art or other.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



Please make sure you have registered for a free KBI teacher account if you are using these resources. It helps us immensely and allows the program to remain free for teachers to use.