

Great Minds: African American Inventors

African American inventors have a large place in American history. They have contributed ideas and inventions to areas such as agriculture, mechanics, medicine and electronics.

Thomas Jennings

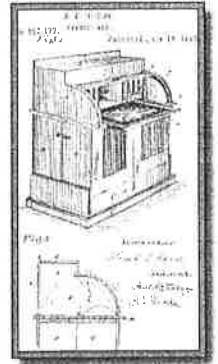
1791-1859

The first African American to receive a patent, Thomas Jennings invented a way to dry clean clothes. He was awarded a patent in 1821. He was a wealthy businessman and used the money from his business and invention for anti-slavery activities.

Sarah E. Goode

about 1855 - 1905

One of the first African American women to receive a patent, Sarah Goode invented a cabinet bed. The bed would fold into a desk when not being used, to save space.



George Washington Carver

1864-1943

George Washington Carver discovered uses for farm crops, such as peanuts and sweet potatoes. He also developed new ways to improve the soil for farming.



Frederick McKinley Jones

1893-1961

Frederick Jones invented the refrigeration truck. Over his life he received over 60 patents. He was admitted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

Charles R. Drew, M.D.

1904-1950

Dr. Drew improved the ways of donating and storing blood and also developed methods for safe collection in blood banks during World War II.



Otis Boykin

1920-1982

Otis Boykin invented over 25 electronic devices for computers, radios and guided missiles. He is best known for inventing a control unit for an artificial heart.

Who Was It?

Who was the first African American inventor to get a patent?

Who improved blood storage and donation methods?

Who discovered uses for peanuts and sweet potatoes?

Find the Secret Word

Fill in the blanks to make complete words. Then use the code sentence to find the secret word.

MA _ Y PE _ PL _ HA _ E B _ IGH _ _ DEAS.
6 12 3 9 15 8 4

4 6 9 3 6 8 12 15

CHAPTER
20

CONNECTIONS

ARTS SCIENCES GEOGRAPHY WORLD **ECONOMICS** CIVICS

Main Idea: *THE LURE OF THE CITY*

Marshall Field's Incredible Store

When the new Marshall Field & Company department store opened in Chicago on September 30, 1907, it was the world's largest store. Everything about it seemed bigger than life. It had 32 miles of carpeting, 76 elevators, 600 tailors, 23,000 fire sprinklers, and a whopping 35 acres of selling space!

The company's founder, Marshall Field, had died the year before, after amassing a fortune selling clothing, dry goods, and novelties. His successors gave the new store a reputation for selling fine things in a courteous way to patrons of quality.

The new store had innovations never before seen in a department store. For instance, the owners removed all clothing and dress goods to the second floor. On the first floor,

they placed gift items, jewelry, and other small objects that would catch the buyer's attention the moment she or he entered the store.

Marshall Field & Company went out of its way to please its customers. Official greeters met each shopper. The store was filled with artworks to delight the eye. An astounding 6,000-square-foot stained-glass Tiffany Dome overlooked the entire first floor.

In addition, customers could return purchases at any time for a full refund. The Marshall Field motto was always "satisfaction guaranteed."

Marshall Field & Company set out to attract a high-class crowd. Yet its prices were reasonable. As more and more women went to work outside the home, the store sold the latest styles for the office.

dress hat: \$7.50	suit: \$15.00
sweater: \$1.90	cloak: \$15.00
dress shoes: \$2.96	gloves: \$.85

On opening day of the new store, nearly 8,000 people waited hours to get in. By the end of the first week, 300,000 people had thronged inside to see, to marvel—and to buy.



1. How many visitors went to Marshall Field's its first week?
2. What the motto for Marshall Field's?
3. Why was jewelry on the first floor?
4. How would you need to buy a hat, a sweater and gloves?
5. How old is the Marshall Fields department store?