Activity

Women Who Dared

Grades: 3–5

Overview: Children learn about history-making women as they find the answers to a list of questions.

Directions: Women have contributed to the sciences for more than 4,000 years. Meet some of these scientists who dared to dream! Print the following pages to write your answers.
1. One of the first female scientists was Egypt's Hypatia, who studied astronomy around 400 AD. What other field did she study?
   Find the answer at: antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/ap020113.html

2. In the U.S., the first known female astronomer was Maria Mitchell. What was her big discovery and when?
   Find the answer at: www.windows.ucar.edu/tour/link=/people/enlightenment.html

3. Interest in astronomy led many women to careers exploring the galaxy. Who was the first woman in space? From which country was she?
   Find the answer at: www.iwasm.org/airspace/women.htm

4. In the '60s, U.S. women began training at NASA alongside male astronauts. What was the name and purpose of the program?
   Find the answer at: www.spaceline.org/astronauts/nasaladies.html

5. In the field of physics, Marie Curie was known for her work with radioactivity. What accomplishment was she the first to achieve? What did she discover?
   Find the answer at: www.aip.org/history/curie/

6. In 1849, Elizabeth Blackwell became the first U.S. woman to earn a medical degree. What college did she attend? How was she accepted there?
   Find the answer at: www.funsocialstudies.learninghaven.com/articles/elizabeth_blackwell.htm
7. Margaret Mead studied primitive cultures. What is this field known as? In 1969, what did *Time* magazine call her?  
*Find the answer at:* www.webster.edu/~woolflm/margaretmead.html

8. Biologist Rachel Carson is considered the founder of the environmental movement. What was her philosophy about nature?  
*Find the answer at:* http://myhero.com/hero.asp?hero=rcarson

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