

African American Scientists Study Sheet

1. Neil deGrasse Tyson Astrophysicist known for popularizing science through books, television, and public appearances.
2. Percy Lavon Julian Chemist renowned for synthesizing medicinal drugs from plants, contributing greatly to pharmaceuticals.
3. Shirley Ann Jackson Physicist who became the first African American woman to earn a Ph.D. from MIT and conducted breakthrough research in theoretical physics.
4. Mae Jemison Physician and engineer who became the first African American woman to travel in space as a NASA astronaut.
5. Charles Drew Pioneering researcher in blood transfusions, credited with developing blood storage techniques and establishing the first blood banks.
6. Benjamin Banneker Astronomer, mathematician, and surveyor who helped survey the original boundaries of Washington, D.C.
7. Marie Maynard Daly First African American woman to earn a Ph.D. in chemistry in the U.S., known for research on cholesterol and hypertension.
8. George Washington Carver Agricultural scientist recognized for his work on crop rotation and multiple uses of peanuts.
9. Roger Arliner Young Zoologist and marine biologist, the first African American woman to earn a Ph.D. in zoology, focusing on the effects of radiation on sea urchin embryos.
10. Daniel Hale Williams Groundbreaking surgeon who performed one of the first successful open-heart surgeries and founded Provident Hospital.
11. Emmett Chappelle Biochemist who made significant contributions to NASA's space exploration efforts, particularly in life detection techniques.
12. Alice Ball Chemist known for developing an effective treatment for leprosy, called the "Ball Method."
13. George Carruthers Astrophysicist and inventor of the ultraviolet camera spectrograph used in the Apollo 16 mission.
14. Lonnie Johnson Aerospace engineer and inventor of the Super Soaker water gun.
15. Mark Dean Computer scientist and engineer credited with significant contributions to the development of the IBM personal computer.
16. Vivien Thomas Surgical technician who developed techniques for treating cyanotic heart disease and helped pioneer open-heart surgery.
17. Otis Boykin Inventor and engineer known for improving the pacemaker and developing electronic control devices.
18. Annie Easley Computer scientist and mathematician who contributed to NASA's space programs.
19. Ernest Everett Just Biologist whose research laid the groundwork for modern cell biology, particularly in fertilization and cell division.
20. Patricia Bath Ophthalmologist and inventor of the Laserphaco Probe, used in cataract treatment, and the first African American woman to complete a residency in ophthalmology.