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Madam C.J. Walker, born Sarah Breedlove in 1867, was an African American entrepreneur and philanthropist who became one of the first self-made female millionaires in the United States. Facing poverty and hair loss, Walker developed a successful line of beauty and haircare products for African American women, founding the Madam C.J. Walker Manufacturing Company in 1906. Her innovative approach and marketing strategies, including doorto-door sales and a network of sales agents known as "Walker Agents," contributed to her business success. Beyond her entrepreneurial achievements, Madam C.J. Walker was also a prominent advocate for civil rights and women's rights, using her wealth to support various charitable causes and organizations. Her legacy endures as a trailblazer in both business and social activism. In this Mini-Biography LINKtivity on Madam CJ Walker, students will learn about Walker's early life, her accomplishments and contributions to the beauty industry, and her legacy that continues to inspire generations.

Click each lightbulb below to Madam C.J. Walker learn about this figure's CONTRIBUTIONS ACHIEVEMENTS intributions and achievements. **BIO SNAPSHOT** Click each category below to learn more EARLY LIFE Madam C.J. Walker was born Sarah Breedlove on December 23, 1867, on a cotton plantation near Delta, Louisiana. She was the daug Walker not only succeeded in business but BIO SNAPSHOT of Owen and Minerva Breedlove, who were both formerly enslaved. Walker faced many challenges during her early life, including poverly and the loss of her parents. She was orphaned at a young age and married for the first time at only 14 years old. also actively worked to empower other sicon where see if urn the ind off African American women. Through her business model, she provided economic SUCCESSFUL ENTREPRENEUR opportunities and employment for many Madam C.J. Walker's first husband. Moses McWilliams, passed away when she was around 20 years old. Left to support herself and her daughter, she moved to St. Louis, Missouri where she worked as a laundress (a woman employed to wash and iron clothes and men, encouraging them to become CONTRIBUTIONS & ACHIEVEMENTS inens). While in St. Louis, Walker began experiencing hair loss and scalp issues. financially independent. This led her to experiment with various hair care products, eventually creating her own specialized formula. Her hair care products became known as the "Walker System." She hired many women to sell her special hair treatment door to door. They were called "Walker Agents." In 1910, she started her own company, the Madam C.J. Walker Manufacturing Company, in Indianapolis, Indiana. Her hair care products gained wide-spread popularity, and she became a successful entrepreneur (business owner). QUOTES & PHOTOS **RENOWN BUSINESSWOMAN** Madam C.J. Walker is widely recognized as one of the first African American women to achieve great success as a self-made millionaire. She not only built a successful business but also played a significant role in empowering other African American women through entrepreneurship and employment opportunities. Her life and achievements have left a lasting impact on the history of African American businesswomen and the beauty industry

More Sample Slides



(Phy)

Perfect for English language learners or students who could use a little extra support!

This LINKtivity is provided with

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()) Click the video icon to learn more.

TWEE N

BIO SNAPSHOT

Student & Teacher Resources

Lesson Plan

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS: LESSON What is a biography? Who is (specific person) and what makes him/her unique? Note: This lesson plan can be used with any mini-biography UNKtivity. Materials Needed Standards Covered Biography LINKtivity® KWL student sheet CCRA.R.10 Biography student sheet (optional) Chart paper/markers OR SMARTboard/Whiteboard **Teacher Preparation** Preview the mini-biography(ies) that you have selected for your students. Plan for how you will share the LINKtivity with students (ex. assign link in Google Classroom, prepare QR codes, etc). Prepare a KWL chart on chart paper or SMARTboard/whiteboard. Print the KWL and biography student sheets. Lesson Activity (20 mins) Lesson Introduction (5-10 min.) Have students complete a Biography Introduce the essential questions. LINKtivity, either one assigned to · Introduce the person(s) your students will them or of their own selection. While be exploring and provide each student navigating the LINKtivity, students with a KWL student sheet. have the option to complete the ASK: What do you know about this biography student sheet. person? What do you want to know **Optional Extension Activities** about this person? Have students complete the first two Take virtual field trips to museums, columns of the chart. Note: If your whole historical sites, or places related to the person's life using a tool like Google class is exploring the same person, you can complete this chart together on a Earth. Have students record a podcast episode SMARTboard/whiteboard. If each about their person. student is completing a different person, Host a wax museum event where students have them complete a KWL for their dress up and take on the persona of their chosen individual to educate others. specific person. Lesson Conclusion (2-5 min.)

Review essential questions and have students share their responses in light of what they have learned. Have students complete the final column of their KWL chart (what I learned).

Recording Sheet for LINKtivity

