

BLACK HISTORY RAP/SONG MINI-ACTIVITY

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alexander Crummell 2. Fredrick Douglass 3. Harriet Tubman 4. Alex Haley 5. Alice Walker 6. Mary McLeod Bethune 7. Megar Evers 8. W.E.B. DuBois 9. Jackie Robinson 10. Martin Luther King, Jr. 11. Henry Highland Garnett | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Maya Angelou 13. James Baldwin 14. Booker T. Washington 15. Thurgood Marshall 16. Sojourner Truth 17. Benjamin Banneker 18. George Washington Carver 19. Mal Jemison 20. Bessie Blount 21. Elijah McCoy | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 22. Rosa Parks 23. Crispus Attucks 24. Charles Drew 25. Jean-Baptist-Point DuSable 26. Joseph Hayne Rainey 27. Paul Robeson 28. Mary Eliza Church Terrell 29. Madame C. J. Walker 30. Carter G. Woodson |
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Directions:

Using the list above, select a figure in Black History to learn about and then compose a rap or song about.

Procedures

- Research one of the famous African Americans listed above.
- Type a short biography (one to three paragraphs) of the individual.
 - o *This biography must be paraphrased (in your own words), and typed, double-spaced in MS Word.*
- Compose an original rap or song about the well-known African American.
 - o *The lyrics must be original, and have to provide a detailed description of the individual.*

Rubric

The table below illustrates how you will be graded for this activity:

Information Required	Possible Points	Your Points
Content All research information is provided.	30	
Biography A short narrative is provided; it is a minimum of one paragraph and a maximum of three paragraphs; it is typed and double-spaced in MS Word.	30	
Rap/Song The lyrics are original, and verbally illustrate all information about the individual.	30	
Presentation The rap/song is a great display of creativity and audience appeal.	10	
Comments		

Name of Rap/Song: _____

Student's Name: _____

Final Grade: _____

Woods, Granville T.

Woods, Granville T.

(1856-1910), was an African American inventor who obtained more than 50 patents. He made his most significant invention, a railway telegraph system, in 1887. This system allowed crew members on moving trains to communicate with one another and with railroad stations. It made rail traffic safer by helping to avoid train collisions.

Woods was born in Columbus, Ohio. He was mostly self-taught, but also took college engineering courses and worked as a railroad engineer. Woods received his first patent, for an improved steam boiler furnace, in 1884. His inventions included an egg incubator, an automatic air brake, a *galvanic* (electric) battery, a telephone transmitter, and devices for telegraphs and railway systems. Woods sold many inventions to such large companies as General Electric, Westinghouse Air Brake, and American Bell Telephone.

Raymond W. Smock Ph.D., Historian, United States House of Representatives; Coeditor, Booker T. Washington Papers.

Granville T. Woods

Granville T. Woods is sometimes called the "Black Thomas Edison" because he invented so many electrical devices. During his lifetime, Granville Woods obtained more than fifty patents for electrical devices that he invented. Granville was called an "extremely prolific and brilliant inventor." He was born in Columbus, Ohio, where he attended school until the age of ten. When he was sixteen years old, Granville got a job as a fireman-engineer with the railroad. He also began to study electrical and mechanical engineering.

In 1887 Granville made the most important invention of his time. He invented a railway telegraph system. This invention allowed crew members on moving trains to communicate with one another and with railroad stations. It made rail traffic safer because it helped trains to avoid collisions. Serious accidents could also be avoided because conductors could be forewarned of obstacles in the train's path. Another of Granville's inventions was a regulator which made electrical motors run better. Demands for his equipment became so widespread that he quit his regular job to devote full-time work for further inventions, an overhead conducting system for electric railways, is still used by trains and trolley cars today.

In 1884 he invented a steam boiler furnace. He next invented an amusement apparatus. In 1890 he invented an electrically heated egg incubator which made it possible to hatch 50,000 eggs at a time. Granville also invented a relay instrument, an automatic air brake, an electric battery, a telephone transmitter, and devices for telegraph and railway

systems. Granville sold many of his inventions to such large electrical companies as General Electric, Westinghouse, and Bell Telephone. At the time of his death in 1910, Granville T. Woods' achievements had gained him worldwide attention and recognition.

Granville T. Woods

Granville T. Woods (1856-1910) of Cincinnati invented Air Brakes, Steam Boilers and the Telegram system of sending messages while trains were still in motion in 1885. His inventions were sold to General Electric, American Telephone and the Westinghouse Air Brake Company. During his lifetime he held U.S. patents to over 50 inventions.

Granville T. Woods Rap Song

Granville T. Woods was an inventor you see,
He made lots of things very positively.
Mr. Woods invented the telegraph,
Which let trains know what was in their path.
Granville invented one incubator,
Which saved lots of chicken 2 months later.
Granville T. Woods was a very smart man.
His inventions are used throughout the land.