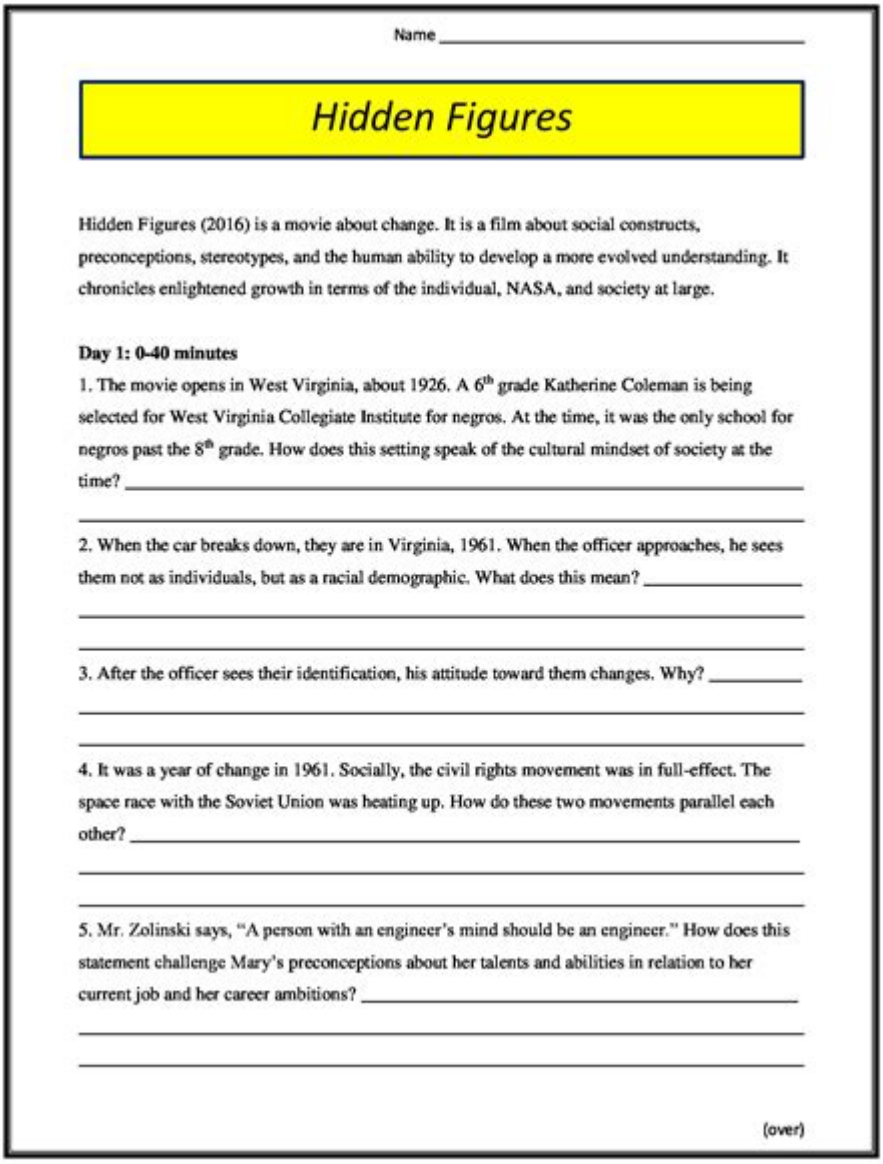
Hidden Figures Worksheet Answers



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Hidden Figures

Hidden Figures (2016) is a movie about change. It is a film about social constructs, preconceptions, stereotypes, and the human ability to develop a more evolved understanding. It chronicles enlightened growth in terms of the individual, NASA, and society at large.

Day 1: 0-40 minutes

1. The movie opens in West Virginia, about 1926. A 6th grade Katherine Coleman is being selected for West Virginia Collegiate Institute for negros. At the time, it was the only school for negros past the 8th grade. How does this setting speak of the cultural mindset of society at the time? _____

2. When the car breaks down, they are in Virginia, 1961. When the officer approaches, he sees them not as individuals, but as a racial demographic. What does this mean? _____

3. After the officer sees their identification, his attitude toward them changes. Why? _____

4. It was a year of change in 1961. Socially, the civil rights movement was in full-effect. The space race with the Soviet Union was heating up. How do these two movements parallel each other? _____

5. Mr. Zolinski says, "A person with an engineer's mind should be an engineer." How does this statement challenge Mary's preconceptions about her talents and abilities in relation to her current job and her career ambitions? _____

(over)

Hidden figures worksheet answers are an essential resource for educators and students alike, particularly when it comes to understanding the significant contributions of African American women in the fields of mathematics and science during the space race. The film "Hidden Figures," which tells the true story of Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson, highlights their vital roles at NASA and in shaping the course of American history. This article will explore the significance of the film, the educational materials available, and how worksheet answers can enhance the learning experience.

Understanding Hidden Figures

"Hidden Figures" is not just a movie; it is an inspiring narrative that sheds light on the challenges faced by three brilliant African American women who worked at NASA during the 1960s. Their work

was crucial in ensuring the success of the United States' manned spaceflights.

The Main Characters

1. Katherine Johnson - A brilliant mathematician whose calculations were critical to the success of the first American in space and later, the Apollo missions.
2. Dorothy Vaughan - A skilled programmer and mathematician who became the first African American woman to supervise a group at NASA.
3. Mary Jackson - An engineer who broke barriers to become NASA's first black female engineer and advocated for women in STEM fields.

These women not only broke racial and gender barriers but also contributed significantly to the field of mathematics and engineering, making their stories an important part of American history.

Educational Importance of Hidden Figures

The film serves as an educational tool, particularly in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields. Teachers can utilize the film and accompanying worksheets to engage students in discussions about diversity, perseverance, and the historical context of the civil rights movement.

Worksheets and Teaching Resources

Teachers can find various worksheets designed to accompany the film "Hidden Figures." These worksheets often include questions and activities that encourage students to think critically about the themes presented in the movie. Here are some common types of worksheets:

- Character Analysis Worksheets: These worksheets prompt students to analyze the main characters' motivations, challenges, and contributions to NASA.
- Historical Context Worksheets: These sheets provide background information on the Civil Rights Movement and the Space Race, helping students understand the societal challenges the characters faced.
- Math and Science Worksheets: Worksheets may include math problems based on the calculations made by Katherine Johnson, allowing students to practice similar mathematical concepts.

Hidden Figures Worksheet Answers

Understanding the answers to hidden figures worksheets is crucial for educators and students. These answers not only provide clarity but also facilitate in-depth discussions and reflections on the topics covered.

Common Questions and Answers

Here are some sample questions that might appear on hidden figures worksheets, along with their corresponding answers:

1. Question: What challenges did Katherine Johnson face while working at NASA?
- Answer: Katherine faced racial segregation, gender discrimination, and skepticism regarding her abilities as a black woman in a male-dominated field. Despite these obstacles, she excelled due to her exceptional mathematical skills.

2. Question: How did Dorothy Vaughan contribute to the development of early computer programming at NASA?
- Answer: Dorothy taught herself and her team the programming language FORTRAN, which was essential for the calculations needed for NASA's missions. She also advocated for her team to be recognized for their contributions.

3. Question: What was Mary Jackson's role in the success of NASA's missions?
- Answer: Mary Jackson worked as an engineer and was instrumental in improving the design and safety of rockets. She also fought for the inclusion of women in engineering roles at NASA.

Benefits of Using Hidden Figures Worksheets in Education

Using "Hidden Figures" worksheets in the classroom offers numerous benefits:

- Encourages Critical Thinking: Students are prompted to analyze the characters' decisions and the societal context, fostering critical thinking skills.
- Promotes Diversity Awareness: The worksheets highlight the contributions of women of color in STEM, encouraging discussions about diversity and inclusion in these fields.
- Integrates STEM Education: By incorporating math and science problems based on the movie, students can see the real-world applications of their classroom learning.
- Enhances Engagement: The film and its related materials make learning more engaging, particularly for visual and auditory learners.

Additional Resources for Educators and Students

Beyond worksheets, there are numerous resources available to deepen understanding of the themes in "Hidden Figures":

- **Books**: "Hidden Figures" by Margot Lee Shetterly offers a comprehensive look at the lives of these women and the challenges they faced.
- **Documentaries**: There are various documentaries available that delve deeper into the history of NASA and the contributions of African American women.

- **Interactive Activities**: Educators can create projects where students simulate the calculations Katherine Johnson performed, reinforcing their math skills.

Conclusion

In summary, **hidden figures worksheet answers** not only provide crucial insights into the stories of Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson but also serve as valuable educational tools. By engaging with these worksheets, students can develop a deeper understanding of the historical and social context of the film while honing their critical thinking and STEM skills. The importance of representation in STEM fields cannot be overstated, and the stories of these women serve as an inspiration for future generations. Through thoughtful discussions and activities, educators can help students appreciate the significance of diversity and resilience in the pursuit of knowledge and equality.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main focus of the 'Hidden Figures' worksheet?

The worksheet focuses on the contributions of African American women mathematicians at NASA during the Space Race, highlighting themes of race, gender, and perseverance.

Which key figures are highlighted in the 'Hidden Figures' worksheet?

The worksheet typically highlights Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson, detailing their significant roles at NASA.

What type of activities can be found in the 'Hidden Figures' worksheet?

Activities may include comprehension questions, character analysis, timeline creation, and discussions about the impact of systemic racism and sexism.

How does the 'Hidden Figures' worksheet help students understand historical context?

It provides insights into the socio-political climate of the 1960s, allowing students to connect historical events to the personal stories of the women featured.

Are there any discussion prompts included in the 'Hidden Figures' worksheet?

Yes, the worksheet often includes discussion prompts that encourage students to reflect on themes

of equality, representation, and innovation in STEM.

What educational standards does the 'Hidden Figures' worksheet align with?

The worksheet is often aligned with Common Core standards for reading comprehension, history, and social studies, focusing on critical thinking and analysis.

Can the 'Hidden Figures' worksheet be used in different educational settings?

Yes, it is suitable for various educational settings, including classrooms, homeschool environments, and workshops focused on diversity in STEM.

What outcomes can educators expect from using the 'Hidden Figures' worksheet?

Educators can expect improved understanding of historical contributions to science, enhanced critical thinking skills, and increased awareness of diversity issues.

Where can educators find the 'Hidden Figures' worksheet and its answers?

The worksheet and answers can usually be found through educational resource websites, lesson plan databases, or directly from publishers of educational materials.

Hidden Figures Worksheet Answers

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