What I’ve learned about
Katherine Johnson’s Childhood

Find facts and complete the graphic organizer. You will need to use the book and research on-line to find the answers.

Katherine Johnson was born in
_______________________
(place)

Birth date: ______________

What do we learn about Katherine’s parents?

Why was it difficult for Katherine and her siblings to attend high school?

Color the state where Katherine was born blue. Color the state where you live red.
August 26, 1918
Katherine Coleman was born in White Sulfur Springs, West Virginia.

Fall 1928
Katherine began high school in the town of Institute, West Virginia.

Fall 1933
Katherine began attending West Virginia State College at the age of 15.

Spring 1937
Katherine graduated from college with a degree in mathematics and French.

Fall 1937
Katherine began teaching at a school in Marion, Virginia.

1939
Katherine married James Francis Goble. They had three daughters.

1953
Katherine was hired as a mathematician at NACA (National Committee for Aeronautics.) She was quickly transferred to the flight research division.

1956
Katherine’s husband died of a brain tumor.

1958
NACA became NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration.)
1959
Katherine married James Johnson.

1961
Katherine was responsible for plotting the path of Alan Shepard as he traveled into space.

1962
Katherine was responsible for checking the computer's math for sending John Glenn around the earth.

1969
Katherine helped perform calculations when Apollo 11 traveled to the moon.

1970
Katherine helped the crew of the Apollo 13 return to earth when the ship malfunctioned in space.

1986
Katherine retired from NASA.

November 2015
President Obama presented Johnson with the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

September 2017
NASA honored Katherine with naming a new research building after her.
The Life of Katherine Johnson

Create a timeline. Research to find 7 events that you feel are an important part of Katherine Johnson’s life. You will need to write the dates on the timeline and then write about the event in the box.

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7.
intelligent
courageous
hard worker
curious
positive
disciplined
humble
cooperative
determined
Supporting Your Beliefs

Use the book to complete the graphic organizer.

One word that can describe Katherine is:

Share three events or ideas from the book that support your word:

1. 
2. 
3. 

4. 
5. 
6. 

7. 
8. 
9. 

©www.thecurriculumcorner.com
Why do you think Katherine Johnson is considered a role model?

Name: ______________________
Why do you think it is important for us to learn about Katherine Johnson's life?
Making Connections

Text-to-World Connection

something from the text  something from the world
| What do you know about the history of space travel in our country? | SCHEMA |
| Share how you felt as you read pages 10 and 11, what you saw in your head & questions you have. | THINKING |
| Share what connections you can make to the reading. (It might be about school or a challenge you have faced.) | CONNECTIONS |
| Share how your thinking has changed or what you understand now that you did not before. Or, share how what you have read has made you feel. | SYNTHESIZING |

Name: ______________________________

Thinking about Katherine
Problem & Solution

A problem Katherine faced:

This is what the text told me about the problem:

This is what the text told me about the solution.
You’re as good as anybody. But you’re no better.

~ Katherine’s Father
Share three words that you would use to describe Katherine Johnson’s childhood.

Katherine’s father used to say to her:

You’re as good as anybody. But you’re no better.
What is a skill you have? What can you do to become better at that skill?

What is an obstacle Katherine had to overcome?
Working Hard to be Successful

Katherine had to work very hard.
Share two examples in the book that show she worked hard to reach her goal.
Katherine had people who worked to help her reach her potential. Tell about one of those people.

Mentors
Katherine has overcome many obstacles. Share two obstacles she worked to overcome.
Katherine Johnson was a mathematician at NASA when space travel was new in our world. Research to find an important event that occurred in space travel. Find two facts to share to help others learn about this event.

Name: ______________________

The event was:

[Blank space for two facts]

©www.thecurriculumcorner.com
Katherine Johnson was a mathematician at NASA when space travel was new in our world. Research to find an important event that occurred in space travel. Find four facts to share to help others learn about this event.

The event was:
Name: ______________________

**Cause & Effect**

Name two events that happened in Katherine’s life. Next, write the effect each event had on Katherine’s life.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Effect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Katherine could already read when she started school.

She skipped first grade.

Katherine would finish her homework first in her family.

She would help her siblings with their homework.

Katherine's father felt that it was important for all of his children to attend high school.

Her father moved her family to Institute, West Virginia where there was an African American high school.

Katherine skipped two grades in elementary school.
She started high school when she was ten.

Katherine took every math class her college offered.

One of her professors created new math classes just for her.

When she graduated in 1937, it was difficult for African American women to find good jobs other than nursing or teaching.

Michaela's first job was teaching French and piano to elementary children.
Share something Katherine's parents did that showed they were determined.
Share evidence that Katherine is a persistent person.
Name: ______________________

How do you know that Katherine had a positive attitude?
Reading Response

What has Katherine done that will inspire you in your life?
Name:

3-2-1
The topic is:

3 things I learned

2 questions I have

1 opinion I have

Name:

3-2-1
The topic is:

3 things I learned

2 questions I have

1 opinion I have
What would Katherine say to her followers on Facebook? Write two Facebook posts you think she would share.
Making Words

Use the letters in the word below to make new words. List all of the real words you think of.

MATHEMATICIAN

__________________  __________________
__________________  __________________
__________________  __________________
__________________  __________________
__________________  __________________
__________________  __________________
__________________  __________________
__________________  __________________
__________________  __________________
__________________  __________________

© www.thecurriculumcorner.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Katherine</th>
<th>Coleman</th>
<th>was</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>born</td>
<td>in</td>
<td>White Sulfur Springs, West Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on</td>
<td>August 26, 1918</td>
<td>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine</td>
<td>skipped</td>
<td>the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>first</td>
<td>and</td>
<td>fifth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grades</td>
<td>of school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Katherine started college when she was 15 years old.
Katherine’s mathematical skills helped NASA send Americans to space.
At the age of 97, Katherine received the Presidential Medal of Freedom.
NASA named a new building after Katherine in 2017.
Name: ____________________________

**Contrasting Books & Movies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>What I Read</th>
<th>What I Saw</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>