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Teacher's Guide

Including Common Core Standards, Sample Questions, and Activities

<u> All About Madam C. J. Walker</u>

Common Core Literacy Scaffolding Questions

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Note to teachers and parents: The standards listed here are taken from the Common Core Standards: *Grades 6-12, Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, & Technical Subjects* from the subset standards for grades 6 – 8. The standards listed here are 6-8.1 – 6-8.10. These Common Core Standards can be viewed in greater detail at this website: http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RH/6-8/

Some states have decided not to adopt the Common Core standards, but the new state standards are uniformly similar. Teachers who choose to use these questions in a state that has not adopted Common Core standards are encouraged to apply their own state standards to these questions. Teachers who choose to use these questions for grades other than 6-8 can find all of the Common Core standards at: http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/.

Teachers, please note that these questions are designed only to provide a very basic literacy scaffold and to provide examples. There is plenty of room for you to add your creativity and use your expertise to develop "why" questions and to help students make connections to other texts.

Note: Madam C.J. Walker will be referred to by her original name of "Sarah Breedlove" or "Sarah" in these reading guides, since that is the name she used most of her life.

The questions below should be answered using a complete sentence and with textual evidence from the reading. The questions for the Preface are answered as examples.

Preface

1. Give one detail about Sarah Breedlove's (the future Madam C. J. Walker) childhood.

Sample Answer: Sarah Breedlove was born "...on a plantation in Delta, Louisiana in 1867."

2. What made Sarah Breedlove begin experimenting with beauty treatments

Sample Answer: Sarah Breedlove began experimenting with beauty treatments because "She was losing her hair because of a severe scalp infection."

Chapter One

Standards: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.3, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.5

- 1. Why was the Breedlove family working as sharecroppers in Louisiana?
- 2. What was one way in which the Ku Klux Klan terrorized African-Americans?
- 3. Why did Sarah Breedlove decide to get married at age fourteen?

Chapter Two

Standards: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.4

- 1. Give an example of what St. Louis was like when Sarah was there in the late 1880's.
- 2. What was one effect that the St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church had on Sarah Breedlove's life?
- 3. What is one thing that Sarah Breedlove used the money she earned from her scalp mixture for?

Chapter Three

Standards: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.3, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.4.

- 1. What effect did Sarah's third husband, C.J. Walker, have on Sarah's business?
- 2. What skills did Sarah possess that helped her to succeed as a business woman?
- 3. Give one example of a success that Sarah had after branding herself "Madam C.J. Walker."

Chapter Four

Standards: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.3, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.5

- 1. What was one business advantage about Indianapolis?
- 2. How did Freeman Bailey Ransom help Sarah?
- 3. What caused Sarah to divorce her third husband in 1912?

Chapter Five

Standards: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.3

- 1. What did Sarah hope to do at the National Negro Business League Convention in Chicago?
- 2. Who was Booker T. Washington and why did Sarah want his respect?
- 3. How did Booker T. Washington finally show his appreciation for Sarah?

Chapter Six

Standards: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.6, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.8

- 1. What was one reason why Sarah wanted to move her business to New York City?
- 2. What role did Sarah play in the Negro Silent Protest Parade?
- 3. How did President Woodrow Wilson react when Sarah and the other African American leaders wanted to meet with him about an anti-lynching law?

Chapter Seven

Standards: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.3

- 1. Give an example of something that Sarah did on her 1916-1917 trip across the United States.
- 2. What was one thing that made the August 1917 national convention for C.J. Walker Beauty Culturists so special.
- 3. What was the nature of the telegram that the women at the National Convention sent to President Wilson?

Chapter Eight

Standards: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.6, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.8

- 1. Who designed Walker's home at the Irvington-on-Hudson?
- 2. What was Walker's position about how blacks should approach U.S. involvement in WWI?

3. What was one concern that Walker and other black leaders had regarding African-American soldiers in WWI?

Chapter Nine

Standards: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.6

- 1. What honorable action was Sarah asked to take at the National Association of Colored Women's Convention in Denver?
- 2. What did Sarah learn about her business from her attorney in 1918?
- 3. What was a legacy that Walker left in the cosmetics industry after her death?

Text Analysis Questions

Standards: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.2, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.4. CCSS.ELA- Literacy.RH.6-8.9, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.8

Essay: Microsoft Founder Bill Gates is one of the world's wealthiest people. He and his wife, Melinda, have founded the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Read the "We Believe" statement below from www.gatesfoundation.org. List are **two aspects** of that statement that Sarah Breedlove (aka Madam C. J. Walker) would likely support and give an example from her life that would indicate why you think this.

WE BELIEVE

That by giving people the tools to lead healthy, productive lives, we can help them lift themselves out of poverty. Every year, millions of people find ways to transition out of poverty- by adopting new farming technologies, investing in new business opportunities, or finding new jobs. We know women and girls have a unique power to reshape societies. When you invest in a woman's health and empowerment, it has a ripple effect, helping families, communities, and countries achieve long-lasting benefits.

All About Madam C. J. Walker Word Search

| В | C | L | V | | | Y | R | 0 | T | C | Α | F | U | Y |
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| AILMENT | HARLEM | POMADE |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| BALD SPOT | LAUNDRESS | PROTEST |
| BREEDLOVE | LELIA | SALVE |
| CHARITY | LOUISIANA | SHAMPOO |
| CHURCH | NAACP | TRESSES |
| ENTREPRENEUR | OINTMENT | VILLA LEWARO |
| FACTORY | ORPHAN | WOMEN |
| HAIR | PHILANTHROPIST | YMCA |

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| 25 | | | 26 | | 27 | | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | 32 | | | | |
| 33 | | | | | 34 | | | | |

Across

- 1. Cowboy's leggings
- **6.** Grade school basics
- 10. Madam Walker's given name
- 11. "Phooey!"
- **12.** Bring upon oneself
- **13.** Temperamental actress or opera star
- **14.** Use a chair
- **16.** Turn down the lights
- **17.** Sports venue or concert site
- **19.** Empty space
- 20. Tell a fib
- **21.** Sign on a door
- 23. Big shade tree
- **24.** ____-pitch softball
- 25. Big zoo cat
- 27. Tennis ref's call (2 wds.)
- **31.** "What's gotten ____ you?"
- **32.** Civil rights org. supported by Madam Walker
- 33. On in years
- **34.** Tribal advisor

All About

Madam C. J.

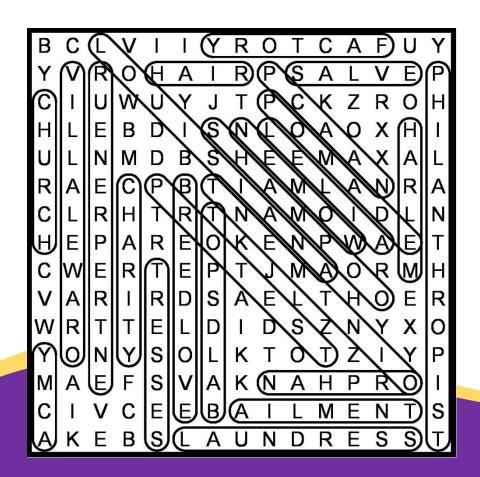
Walker

Crossword

Puzzle

Down

- 1. CBS forensic crime show
- 2. ___ Solo of "Star Wars"
- 3. Rainbow shape
- **4.** Break in the action
- **5.** Revered monuments
- **6.** Figure out that 2 + 2 is 4
- **7.** Structure that spans a river
- **8.** Fancy fish eggs
- **9.** Post Office purchase that has an image of Madam Walker
- **15.** Sunbather's marking
- **17.** Not feeling well
- 18. TV "clicker"
- 20. Madam Walker's daughter
- **22.** Calculator key
- **26.** Silent approval
- 28. Gloomy
- 29. Frozen water
- 30. Radio's PBS



All About Madam C. J. Walker Answer Key

