

Title: African Americans in Medicine

Honoree: Michael L. Parks, MD

Grade Level: K-12, General, Group Activity

Subject: Science

Standards Addressed:

5-1.6 Evaluate results of an investigation to formulate a valid conclusion based on evidence and communicate the findings of the evaluation in oral or written form.

Goal/Objective: The student will investigate the history of African American in medicine and create a graphic organizer

Items/Materials Needed: computer, biography of Dr. Michael Parks, graphic organizers

Procedures:

- Place students in groups of twos.
- Have students read the calendar bio of Dr. Michael L. Parks
- Ask each student in the group to record details about Dr. Parks' life as they read/research.
- After students have completed their research, ask them to discuss among themselves the personal qualities and characteristics that helped Dr. Parks become a surgeon. What obstacles would he have faced?
- Have students to read and review the history of African American in medicine timeline at the following website: <http://www.mclibrary.duke.edu/hom/exhibits/blkhist/bhmtime>
- Have students lead a discussion regarding the timeline.
- Have students to research other scientist of medicine at <http://www.infoplease.com/spot/bhmfirsts.html>
- Have students chose a particular scientist or medical doctor from their research and compare them with Dr. Parks.
- Have students record similarities and differences of Dr. Parks and the scientist they chose. Also have students discuss any obstacles that Dr. Parks and the other scientist would have faced. Record this information in the graphic organizer.
- Have an open class discussion to report each group's information and discovery.
- Graphic organizer should be displayed on a bulletin board or around your classroom (Student choice of graphic organizers)

Extension:

Have students research African American, 1st in the field of ...

These websites are great starting point:

<http://www.mclibrary.duke.edu/hom/exhibits/blkhist/bhmtime>

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/scitech/SciRefGuides/africanamericans.html>

<http://www.infoplease.com/spot/bhmfirsts.html>