

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Benjamin Banneker



Benjamin Banneker was born on a tobacco farm in Maryland in 1731. His mother was a free woman and his father was a slave, which by law, made Benjamin a freeman. In school, Benjamin showed great interest and ability in mathematics. As he did his chores on the farm, he would make up math problems to solve. He also learned how to play the flute and violin.

When he was twenty, Benjamin was given a pocket watch. He took the watch apart to study how it worked. He was so fascinated by the watch that for two years he spent all his spare time building a clock carved entirely of wood.

When it was completed, it kept perfect time for over fifty years. This clock is believed to be the first clock made entirely in America.

Later Benjamin was given some astronomy books, science equipment and a telescope. He began to study the stars and the constellations. He had a great interest in science and math and he wrote his own almanac. In it he included the times of eclipses, the hours of sunrise and sunset, weather forecasts and even a list of medicines.

Benjamin Banneker became so well-known that President George Washington chose him to help plan the city of Washington D.C. It is a beautiful city thanks to the assistance of Benjamin Banneker.

Benjamin Banneker took his last walk with a friend on October 9, 1806. He complained about being ill. He died later that day.

1. Benjamin Banneker was born on a \_\_\_\_\_ farm.
2. Benjamin was interested in \_\_\_\_\_.
3. He learned how to play the flute and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Benjamin was given a pocket \_\_\_\_\_.
5. He took the watch \_\_\_\_\_ to study how it worked.

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1. When was Benjamin Banneker born?

- a. He was born in 1773.
- c. He was born in 1931.

- b. He was born in 1731.
- d. He was born in 1831.

2. What subject did Benjamin Banneker like in school?

- a. He liked math.
- c. He liked science.

- b. He liked English.
- d. He liked history.

3. What instruments did he learn how to play?

- a. He learned how to play the piano and the trumpet.
- b. He learned how to play the piano and the drums.
- c. He learned how to play the violin and the piano.
- d. He learned how to play the flute and the violin.

4. What was the clock made of?

- a. It was made of steel.
- c. It was made of plastic.

- b. It was made of wood.
- d. It was made of glass.

5. What kind of book did Benjamin Banneker write and publish?

- a. He wrote an almanac.
- c. He wrote a weather book.

- b. He wrote an eclipse.
- d. He wrote a book of medicines.

6. Which President of the United States asked Benjamin Banneker to help plan Washington D.C.?

- a. It was President Thomas Jefferson.
- c. It was President Bill Clinton.

- b. It was President George Washington.
- d. It was President Abraham Lincoln.

7. What year did Benjamin Banneker pass away?

- a. He passed away on October 9, 1806.
- c. He passed away on April 8, 1773.

- b. He passed away on January 4, 1731.
- d. He passed away on October 8, 1906.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Benjamin Banneker

**Circle the correct answer below.**

- |                                                                |      |       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|
| 1. Benjamin Banneker was born in Maryland.                     | True | False |
| 2. Benjamin Banneker liked math.                               | True | False |
| 3. Benjamin Banneker learned how to play the piano and violin. | True | False |
| 4. Benjamin Banneker made a watch out of plastic.              | True | False |
| 5. Benjamin Banneker wrote an almanac.                         | True | False |
| 6. Benjamin Banneker helped to plan the capital of the USA.    | True | False |
| 7. Benjamin Banneker died in 1608.                             | True | False |
| 8. Benjamin Banneker liked astronomy and science.              | True | False |
| 9. Benjamin Banneker didn't have any chores.                   | True | False |
| 10. Benjamin Banneker predicted eclipses.                      | True | False |

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Benjamin Banneker

almanac  
astronomy  
Banneker  
Benjamin  
building  
carving  
chores  
constellations

eclipses  
farm  
flute  
forecast  
freeman  
inventor  
Maryland  
math

medicine  
October  
perfection  
president  
science  
slave  
stars  
sunrise

sunset  
telescope  
tobacco  
violin  
Washington DC  
watch  
weather  
wood

A L M W C O N S T E L L A T I O N S E E S M  
U B A N A C E R T C D N O T G N I H S A W A  
I E E A I T R T N O P E R F E E C T I O N T  
L N R M U S C I A L M A N A C E S S C I E H  
D J F Q A L U H M C L I P L S T C E S E F G  
M A R Y L A N D E I H N I E A I E N U N U I  
I M Y O A V T R E U U P S R E K E N N A B E  
N I H N L E I E R H S B S E D E R A R F P W  
G N T S L S O U F E Q E U U T D R E I E R E  
E A S T E E N Y S A E D R I E R O S S R E T  
W E A T H E R V E E R U Y J L T U O E Y S U  
S F C E G T S N O I T M G R E D I N W A I L  
C A R V I N G E D O O R U U S A I U I E D F  
I B O C R Y N S U N S E T U C S N N O W E O  
E Y F A A I A N O Q E R A N O I V T G R N C  
N U R N C N L R A E C U Z R P R E Y E E T S  
C N E I R S T R E W Y H A I E N N N R B S T  
E H D M F S Y O C C A B O T S U T U D O E E  
R E A L A E U T A R S R E R E G O B S T R L  
M V U Y R R V A E D T E L E E S R C O C P E  
A D F T M P E R F E C T I O N S N I L O I V

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Benjamin Banneker - Answers

almanac  
astronomy  
Banneker  
Benjamin  
building  
carving  
chores  
constellations

eclipses  
farm  
flute  
forecast  
freeman  
inventor  
Maryland  
math

medicine  
October  
perfection  
president  
science  
slave  
stars  
sunrise

sunset  
telescope  
tobacco  
violin  
Washington DC  
watch  
weather  
wood

A L M W C O N S T E L L A T I O N S E E S M  
U B A N A C E R T C D N O T G N I H S A W A  
I E E A I T R T N O P E R F E E C T I O N T  
L N R M U S C I A L M A N A C E S S C I E H  
D J F Q A L U H M C L I P L S T C E S E F G  
M A R Y L A N D E I H N I E A I E N U N U I  
I M Y O A V T R E U U P S R E K E N N A B E  
N I H N L E I E R H S B S E D E R A R F P W  
G N T S L S O U F E Q E U U T D R E I E R E  
E A S T E E N Y S A E D R I E R O S S R E T  
W E A T H E R V E E R U Y J L T U O E Y S U  
S F C E G T S N O I T M G R E D I N W A I L  
C A R V I N G E D O O R U U S A I U I E D F  
I B O C R Y N S U N S E T U C S N N O W E O  
E Y F A A I A N O Q E R A N O I V T G R N C  
N U R N C N L R A E C U Z R P R E Y E E T S  
C N E I R S T R E W Y H A I E N N N R B S T  
E H D M F S Y O C C A B O T S U T U D O E E  
R E A L A E U T A R S R E R E G O B S T R L  
M V U Y R R V A E D T E L E E S R C O C P E  
A D F T M P E R F E C T I O N S N I L O I V

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## Benjamin Banneker - Answers

Page 2:

1. Benjamin Banneker was born in 1731.
2. Benjamin Banneker liked math in school.
3. He learned how to play the flute and violin.
4. The clock was made of wood.
5. He wrote and published an almanac.
6. George Washington asked Benjamin Banneker to help plan Washington D.C.
7. Benjamin Banneker passed away in 1806.

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- |         |          |          |          |          |
|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. True | 2. True  | 3. False | 4. False | 5. True  |
| 6. True | 7. False | 8. True  | 9. False | 10. True |