

Name _____ Date _____

Shirley Chisholm



Shirley Chisholm was born on November 30, 1924 in Brooklyn, New York. She learned to read and write before she was five. Shirley and her sisters spent a great deal of time on their grandmother's farm in Barbados, an island in the Caribbean Sea.

Shirley graduated from high school and went on to college in New York. When she finished college, she became the director of a nursery school and later took charge of a child care center.

Shirley felt that many people weren't being treated fairly, and she wanted to change this. She served in the New York State government for four years and worked to make laws that would protect people's rights. In 1968 she was the first African American woman elected to the U.S House of Representatives. Here she fought for health care, child care and good housing. Shirley Chisholm fought for equal rights for women, for African Americans and for unfairly treated groups. She called herself "fighting Shirley Chisholm."

In 1972, Shirley ran for nomination as a candidate for United States President.

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

1. Shirley Chisholm is from _____.
2. Shirley took _____ of a child care center.
3. Shirley _____ in the New York government.
4. Shirley _____ for equal rights for women.
5. Shirley called herself "_____ Shirley Chisholm."
6. Shirley _____ to read and write before she was five years old.
7. Shirley was the _____ African American woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Name _____ Date _____

Shirley Chisholm - Answers

Shirley Chisholm was born on November 30, 1924 in Brooklyn, New York. She learned to read and write before she was five. Shirley and her sisters spent a great deal of time on their grandmother's farm in Barbados, an island in the Caribbean Sea.

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8. Shirley **ran** for candidate for the United States President.