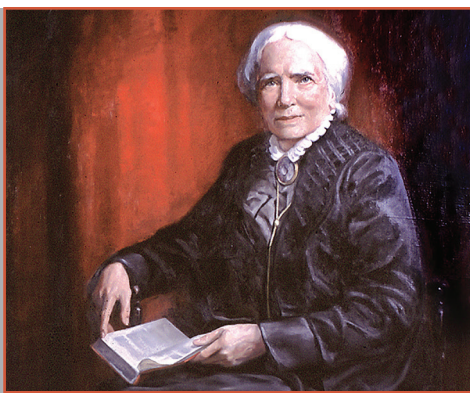




Mini Page Heroes: Elizabeth Blackwell



painting by Joseph Stanley Kozlowski

Mini Quote:

“For what is done or learned by one class of women becomes ... the property of all women.”



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Kyle Fish, 14th PAD/Released

Kids learn CPR at the Red Cross Center at Fort Hood in Texas.

There's nothing unusual about a female doctor. But not so long ago, a lot of people thought the idea was ridiculous.

Childhood

Elizabeth Blackwell was born in 1821 in Bristol, England. Her family moved to the United States when she was 11. They settled in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Even when she was young, Elizabeth was strong-willed and stubborn, not reserved and submissive like girls were expected to be.

Her parents stressed education, and after her father's death, Elizabeth and her sisters started a school for girls in Cincinnati.

A new path

Young Elizabeth didn't consider studying medicine until a dying friend planted the seed. Her sick neighbor appreciated the hours that Elizabeth spent taking care of her. "If I could have been treated by a lady doctor, my worst sufferings would have been spared me," she said. "If only you were a doctor."

Medical schools at the time were for men only, so Elizabeth spent years preparing with the help of some friendly doctors before she even applied. She was 25 when she began to apply to medical schools. She collected rejection after rejection — a total of 28.



An open door

Then the letter from Geneva Medical College in New York arrived. Acceptance! She was finally on the road to earning her medical degree. Only upon arriving at the college did she learn why she was accepted. It was a joke!

The school's faculty had not wanted her, but in order to avoid making that decision, they asked the all-male student body to vote. The men voted unanimously for her entry. They figured some other medical school was playing a practical joke. But the joke

was on them. The Geneva faculty had to honor the vote, and Elizabeth Blackwell was in. And she had the last laugh. After the two-year program was over, in 1849 Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell graduated No. 1 in her class.

Moving women ahead
However, Dr. Blackwell still had to convince patients to allow themselves to be examined by a female doctor. She opened a hospital in 1851 in New York where only women doctors worked. In the 1870s, she taught at the London School of Medicine for Women. She died in 1910 in England.



Geneva Medical College in Geneva, New York. Today it is part of the State University of New York.

Helping others

Dr. Blackwell dedicated her life to curing people. What do you know about first aid? Could you help a friend who suddenly was injured? Would you know what simple things to do and not to do?

You can be ready to help a family member or friend by learning CPR, mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, the Heimlich maneuver and other first-aid techniques. By staying calm and acting responsibly, you might be able to save a life until emergency workers arrive.

The American Red Cross, scouting groups and youth organizations all provide training. The website for the American Red Cross is redcross.org. This informative site will pinpoint the Red Cross instruction location closest to your home.

Resources



This issue of *Mini Page Heroes* is based on a chapter from "50 American Heroes Every Kid Should Meet" by Dennis Denenberg and Lorraine Roscoe. To order the book, go to heroes4us.com and click on "50 American Heroes Book" and "Order a Book."

At the library:

- "Elizabeth Blackwell: America's First Woman Doctor" by Trina Robbins

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of Elizabeth Blackwell are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



BLACKWELL,	D	W	C	Y	J	L	A	T	I	P	S	O	H	W	M
CINCINNATI, CLASS,	E	O	L	E	R	D	I	A	T	S	R	I	F	H	E
COLLEGE, DEGREE,	G	M	A	Q	D	N	A	L	G	N	E	N	D	T	D
DOCTOR, ELIZABETH,	R	E	S	B	L	A	C	K	W	E	L	L	O	E	I
EMERGENCY, ENGLAND,	E	N	S	T	H	T	E	G	E	L	L	O	C	B	C
FACULTY, FIRST AID,	E	G	R	E	J	E	C	T	I	O	N	O	T	A	I
HELP, HOSPITAL, JOKE,	P	S	J	T	A	E	R	T	R	Q	H	H	O	Z	N
MEDICINE, REJECTION,	L	F	A	C	U	L	T	Y	Y	M	W	C	R	I	E
SCHOOL, TREAT, WOMEN.	E	C	I	N	C	I	N	N	A	T	I	S	D	L	S
	H	Y	C	N	E	G	R	E	M	E	J	O	K	E	D

Cook's Corner

Chillin' Cherry Pie

You'll need:

- 4 ounces light cream cheese
- 1/2 teaspoon sugar
- 1 (8-ounce) tub light whipped topping, divided

- 1 (9-inch) prepared graham cracker crust
- 1 (20-ounce) can cherry pie filling (or other flavor)



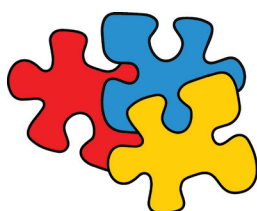
* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

What to do:

1. Mix cream cheese with sugar until well blended.
2. Stir in half of whipped topping and mix together.
3. Spread mixture over top of graham cracker crust.
4. Spoon cherry pie filling on top.
5. Top with remaining whipped topping. Chill for 4 hours. Serves 8.

Puzzling

Unscramble the words below that remind us of doctors.



- nairngit _____
- lfephlu _____
- cnescie _____
- idmciene _____

Answers: training, helpful, science, medicine.

Mini Jokes



Lila: What does a sick lemon need?
Lance: Lemon-aid!

Eco Note



Turtles in Australia's Great Barrier Reef have suffered for several years from illnesses that some experts believe may be caused by cobalt pollution. Cobalt is a metal used in mining and industrial sites. The latest ailments have recently left some of Upstart Bay's turtles with mysterious eye infections.

adapted with permission from Earthweek.com

Thank You



The Mini Page thanks Dennis Denenberg, former teacher, principal, superintendent and university professor, and Lorraine Roscoe, a champion of heroes of every kind, for help with this issue.

Teachers:

For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: bbs.amuniversal.com/Everyone_content/Teaching_Guides/The_Mini_Page/

Books from The Mini Page are wonderful resources and make great gifts! See all of our Mini Page products at MiniPageBooks.com, or call 844-426-1256 for more information. Mail payment to: Andrews McMeel Universal, Mini Page Books, 1130 Walnut, Kansas City, MO 64106. Include \$4.00 shipping and handling per order.

