

## Answers:



**George Washington Carver:** He was a scientist who researched agricultural products. He was best known for his work with peanuts and sweet potatoes.



**Booker T. Washington:** He was a great educator from Virginia who established a school for African Americans at Tuskegee in 1881, which later became Tuskegee University.



**William (W.C.) Handy:** He was a musician born in Florence and is called the "Father of the Blues."



**Dr. Mae C. Jemison:** She is a chemical engineer, scientist, and astronaut. She was the first African American woman in space.



**Evander Holyfield:** He is a boxer from Atmore who won the bronze medal in light heavyweight boxing at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games.



**Rosa L. Parks:** She was arrested in Montgomery for refusing to give up her bus seat and consequently started the Montgomery Bus Boycott.



**James Cleveland (Jesse) Owens:** He was born in Oakville. He broke the Olympic records in the 1936 Berlin games by winning 4 gold medals. He is considered America's greatest track star.



**Condoleezza Rice:** She was born in Birmingham and in 2005 became the first African American woman to be U.S. Secretary of State. She was also National Security Advisor from 2001-2005.

## Other African Americans who lived in Alabama:

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.:** He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964 for his non-violent leadership during the American Civil Rights Movement.

**Alice Davis Coachman:** She was a former Tuskegee Institute student and was the first black woman to win an Olympic gold medal.

**Leroy Robert (Satchel) Paige:** He is known as the greatest baseball pitcher of all time.

**Fred Gray:** He is a lawyer who worked to spread the message of racial reconciliation. He represented many Civil Rights leaders.

**Gen. Daniel (Chappie) James:** He was one of the "Tuskegee Airmen." He became the first black four-star general.

**Johnnie Carr:** She was a key player in the success of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. She also helped integrate Sidney Lanier High School.

**Dinah Washington:** She was known as the "Queen of the Harlem Blues" and was born in Tuscaloosa.

**Charles Barkley:** He is from Leeds and was a basketball super-star. He won a gold medal at the Barcelona Olympic games in 1994.

**William H. (Willie) Mays:** He was a famous baseball player with amazing hitting and fielding skills.

**Henry (Hank) Aaron:** He was a baseball player who beat Willie Mays and Babe Ruth's all-time home run record. He is also in the Baseball Hall of Fame.

**Joe Lewis:** He was nicknamed the "Brown Bomber" for his 54 boxing career knockouts.

**Nat "King" Cole:** He was a famous singer and pianist during the 1950s-60s. His daughter, Natalie, is also a famous singer.

**Percy Sledge:** He sang a #1 pop and rhythm and blues hit, "When a Man Loves a Woman" in 1966.

**Fred (Carl) Carlton Lewis:** He was an Olympic star who participated in the games in 1984, 1988, 1992, and 1996 and won the gold medal for the long jump all four times.

**Vivian Malone:** The first African American to graduate from the University of Alabama.

**Alexis Herman:** This Mobile native became the U.S. Secretary of Labor in 1997 under the Clinton-Gore Administration.

**Lionel Richie:** He was lead singer of the group *The Commodores*, whose members met at a Tuskegee University talent show and had the biggest selling Motown album in history. He also had many hits as a solo singer.

**Bo Jackson:** He was born in Bessemer and was a Heisman Trophy winner and drafted by both the NFL and Major League Baseball.

**Maria Fearing:** Born as a slave, she became a free woman at the age of 27. She spent 24 years as a missionary in Africa.

**Erskine Hawkins:** He was born in Birmingham and became a famous jazz trumpeter. He is in the Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame.

**E.D. Nixon:** He was born in Montgomery in 1899 and helped form Montgomery's first black union. He was known as the "Father of the Civil Rights Movement."

**Percy Julian:** He received a Ph.D. in chemistry and formed his own research company which created the drug cortisone.