I am a famous black American. I was born in about 1864 in Diamond Grove, Missouri where my parents were slaves. (Birth dates of slave babies were not always recorded so people do not know for sure when I was born.) Fortunately, slavery was abolished just before I was born.

I was very interested in nature. I liked to collect rocks and plants. People called me “The Plant Doctor.”

I studied and earned degrees in agricultural science at Iowa State University. I went on to teach at Tuskegee Institute, a school for blacks in Alabama.

My research and inventions greatly helped people, especially farmers in the South. The farmers in the South primarily grew cotton. Growing cotton every year was not good for the soil. The cotton plants took away great amounts of nutrients. I found that growing crops such as peanuts, soybeans, peas, sweet potatoes, and pecans put nutrition back into the soil. The farmers became more successful when they took my advice and planted these other crops instead of just cotton.
I was not the first president of the United States, but my name sounds a lot like his.

I also invented many uses for the farmers’ crops so that they would be able to sell more of their harvest. I figured out more than 300 ways to use peanuts, more than 100 uses for sweet potatoes, and about 75 uses for pecans.

George Washington Carver

Written by Linda Anderson

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Who am I?

Name: __________
Date: __________
Answer: __________

Who am I?

Name: __________
Date: __________
Answer: __________

Who am I?

Name: __________
Date: __________
Answer: __________

Who am I?

Name: __________
Date: __________
Answer: __________

PREVIEW

Please log in or register to download the printable version of this worksheet.

Who am I?

Name: __________
Date: __________
Answer: __________

Who am I?

Name: __________
Date: __________
Answer: __________

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Who Am I?

By Linda Billberg Andersen

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Answer: George Washington Carver