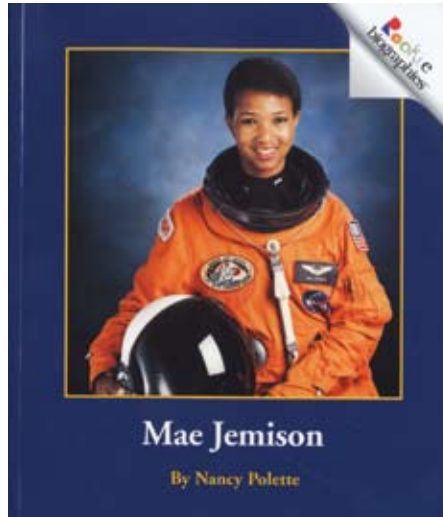


BrainStorm™

Read-Together Ideas



Mae Jemison

BY NANCY POLETTE

Summary >> This short biography profiles the first African-American woman astronaut, Mae Jemison. Early life experiences kindled Dr. Jemison's desires to become a medical doctor and to travel into space.

Key Words

Space words

- *stars
- *astronaut
- *space
- *moon
- *NASA
- *jet
- *shuttle

Key Skills and Concepts

LITERACY SKILLS

- *Determine important information (Comprehension)
- * Read with appropriate phrasing (Fluency)

SCIENCE CONCEPTS

- * Explore Earth as part of the solar system (Earth & Space science)
- *Understand the role of technology in science (Science & Technology)

Before Reading

*Read the back cover.

Invite your student to read the back cover to find out about Dr. Jemison before beginning to read the book.

*Talk about astronauts.

Discuss what your student already knows about astronauts and space travel. You may want to prompt the discussion by asking: *What books have you already read about space? What do you know about astronauts? Do you know the names of any particular astronauts that you learned about?*

During Reading

*As you listen to your partner read, provide support, encouragement, and occasional challenges to build

reading skills to better understand the book. Use some or all of the following prompts and questions.

PAGES	SUPPORT THE READING	OBSERVATIONS
Cover	This book is a biography. A biography is a true story about a person's life. What other biographies have you read?	How familiar is your student with this type of text? (Comprehension)
5	I see that the last sentence of this page ends with an exclamation point. What does this tell us?	Did your student read the last line with expression? (Fluency)
6	What did we learn about Dr. Jemison by reading this page? What's the most important piece of information for us to remember? Why?	How comfortable was your student in pointing out what he or she thinks is the most important piece of information? (Comprehension)
12	How do the photos in this book help us better understand Mae Jemison's life?	Note whether your student refers to the photos and any caption for additional information. (Comprehension)
15	Even though the page ends in a question, we already know the answer, don't we? Why do you think Mae was chosen?	Does your student recount the important detail from the biography that can help answer your question? If not, you may want him or her to review the first half of the book. (Comprehension)
16	Do you know what NASA stands for? It stands for "National Aeronautics and Space Administration." NASA is an <i>acronym</i> , or a short way to write the name of the organization.	
29	How did Dr. Jemison use her medical degree to help other people?	How confident is your student in offering a summary of the text? Can he or she combine the important details to determine an answer to your question? If not, you may want to review important details together. (Comprehension)

After Reading

***Wrap-Up.** The last pages of the book highlight key words from the biography; they can also be used as a way to summarize some of the important events in Dr. Jemison's life. Invite your student to retell key events in his or her own words.

Write It!

*Explain to your student that Dr. Jemison continues to work to improve the lives of people all around the world. Then invite your student to write research questions about Jemison's life and work after the point at which the book leaves off.