

Strides for Women Posters

Grade Levels: 3-6

Objectives

- Students will learn about the strides women have made in various career fields.
- Students will practice research skills.
- Students will create a poster for display in the classroom.

Materials

- Copies of Famous Women's Accomplishments (included)
- Copies of Research Questions (included)
- Poster Board
- Markers
- Magazines
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Reference materials

Procedures

1. Ask students to read Famous Women's Accomplishments.
2. Direct students to select one of the women on the list as the subject for a poster.
3. Direct students to use the Research Questions handout to guide their work.
4. Once their research is complete, ask students to write a one page description of their subject's life and paste it in the center of their poster.
5. Direct students to finish decorating their posters. Students can draw illustrations, find small objects, or cut out photographs from magazines that symbolize various aspects of their subject's life.
6. Explain that students **must** clearly label each item with a sentence describing what the item represents.
7. Once the posters are complete, share them with the larger group.
8. Display posters around the classroom.

Famous Women's Accomplishments

Architects

The American architect **Eleanor Raymon** established her own practice in 1928. She was constantly experimenting with new building materials and designed one of the earliest solar homes in 1948.

Natalie DeBlois was part of the team that designed Lever House in 1952, the Pepsi Cola building in 1959, and the Union Carbide building in 1960, all very large and famous corporate buildings.

When she was 21, **Maya Lin** won a national competition to design and build the now famous Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. Her most recent monument was erected in Alabama in honor of the Civil Rights Movement.

Chefs

American-born **Julia Child** popularized French cooking in the United States with her television show, *The French Chef*, in the 1960s. A graduate of the Cordon Bleu cooking school in Paris, her book, *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*, is considered the finest work on the subject.

M.F.K. Fisher (1908-1992) was an American chef and writer on the art of food. Her first book, *Serve It Forth*, was published in 1937. In it, she said "Look, if you have to eat to live, you might as well enjoy it." Good advice! Throughout the '40s, '50s, and '60s, she lived, cooked, and wrote in California, Switzerland, and France.

Alice Waters is a chef who came to fame when she opened her California restaurant Chez Panisse in 1971. Her latest cookbook was inspired by her 9-year-old daughter. It's called *Fanny at Chez Panisse* (1992) and is written in the voice of a young girl.

Philosophers

Hannah Arendt was a German-born philosopher (1906-1975). She lived most of her life in New York and wrote about the value of private over public virtues in her book *The Human Condition*.

The French philosopher **Simone de Beauvoir** became famous in 1949 when she published her book *The Second Sex*. In it she traced the oppression of women throughout history using her theories of psychology and myth.

Photographers

Berenice Abbot was born in the U.S. in 1898. After photographing famous people in Paris in the 1920s and in New York in the 1930s, she became a designer of technical photographic equipment.

Diane Arbus was an American photographer who became famous for her photos of extraordinary and sometimes bizarre people in the 1960s.

Margaret Bourke-White was a photojournalist whose World War II photos for *Life* magazine were world famous. She was the creator of the photo-essay, a series of photos that tell a story.

American **Annie Leibovitz** is a photographer of celebrities who has become a celebrity herself. At the age of 23 she became chief photographer for *Rolling Stone* magazine, where she worked from 1973 to 1983. She remains the best known photographer of her generation.

Publishers

Katharine Graham became the publisher of the *Washington Post*, one of the most influential and powerful newspapers in the U.S., in 1969. This newspaper is also the publisher of the weekly magazine *Newsweek*.

Victoria Ocampo of Argentina (1891-1979) was the founder and publisher of *Sur*, a literary magazine. She was known in her country as the Queen of Letters.

The American feminist, writer, editor, and speaker, **Gloria Steinem**, founded *Ms* magazine in 1972.

Name _____

Date _____

Research Questions

Use the Famous Women's Accomplishments information sheet or additional reference materials to answer the following research questions about a famous woman of your choice.

1. Name of subject:
2. Where did your subject grow-up?
3. When was she born and (if applicable) when did she die?
4. What influenced her to become interested in her field?
5. During her life, did she face any problems that made it difficult for her to accomplish her goals? If so, what were they?
6. How did she overcome these difficulties?
7. Describe any special training or education she needed in order to pursue her interests.
8. Name some of the steps she took to begin her career.
9. How did she become recognized for excellence in her field?
10. What effects have her accomplishments had on society?
11. How has she advanced the thinking or work in her field?
12. After learning about her, what are some of your personal feelings about your subject?