

BOOK SUMMARY: *George Washington Carver* by Martha E.H. Rustad

From the “First Biographies” series, Capstone Press, 2002

This summary is divided into the segments of the book where the teacher stopped to think aloud or to have the children turn and talk and record their thinking. The last three pages include direct quotes to support the analysis of student work. Photographs on even-numbered pages throughout the book show George, places he lived, went to school, taught, and did research, and what a cotton field looks like.

Page	Summary
4-7	Tells when George Washington Carver was born, that he was a slave on a farm, that he liked growing and studying about plants, and that he left to go to school.
8-13	This section explains where and when George went to school, and how he studied “painting, plants, and farming”. Then he taught about plants and farming at Tuskegee Institute.
14-15	The portion of text explains the problem of cotton no longer growing well and the need for the soil to regain its fertility.
16-17	(Guided Practice begins here.) “George taught farmers about other crops. Farmers started growing peanuts and sweet potatoes. These crops helped make the soil fertile again.”
18-19	“George showed farmers how people could use peanuts and sweet potatoes. He made cheese...” This page goes on to detail other uses of peanuts and sweet potatoes.
20-21	“George... died in 1943. People remember him for helping farmers. George is famous for inventing new ways to use crops.”