



Women's History Month

March 1–31 • United States

Reinforce social studies and multicultural lessons by learning about the accomplishments of women throughout history.

★ Book Links

Scholastic Encyclopedia of Women in the United States by Sheila Keenan (Scholastic, 2002). Reference book, intermediate. Biographies of more than 250 women throughout American history.

You Want Women to Vote, Lizzie Stanton? by Joan Fritz (Penguin Putnam, 1995). Chapter book, intermediate. Part of the Unforgettable Americans series, this book makes Stanton's plight for women's rights accessible and enjoyable.

★ Web Link

The National Women's History Project's Web site at www.nwhp.org includes an annual theme, biographies of legendary women, a historical timeline, the "learning place" for educational materials, and more.

Holiday History **Read Aloud**

Did you know that at one time women couldn't go to college, vote in elections, hold government office, or even own property in the United States? It took the hard work of women such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton and the leaders of the Women's Suffrage movement to give women the rights they have today.

— EXCERPT —

Men, their rights, and nothing more,
Women, their rights, and nothing less.
—Women's Rights movement battle cry

★ Reproducible

Famous Women in History Mobiles, page 103 **Language Arts**

Show classroom pride in women's history by creating and displaying simple mobiles of historic facts hung on wire clothing hangers. Have students research facts about selected women in history. Cutout fact boxes and directions for making the mobiles are on the reproducible page. Hang the mobiles around the classroom throughout the month. **FOR YOUNGER STUDENTS:** Read aloud short biographies and create large shapes for students to illustrate. **FOR OLDER STUDENTS:** Have students write a résumé for the figure they are researching to hang near the mobile. The résumé should include important achievements, skills, and education credentials.

Here is a brief list of some famous women whom students can select for their mobiles or for a class timeline.

- ★ Joan of Arc, religious martyr (1412–1451)
- ★ Elizabeth I, Queen of England (1533–1603)
- ★ Jane Austen, author (1775–1817)
- ★ Sacagawea, Native American guide (1789–1812?)
- ★ Harriet Tubman, conductor on Underground Railroad (1821–1913)
- ★ Elizabeth Cady Stanton, women's rights activist (1815–1902)
- ★ Susan B. Anthony, women's rights activist (1820–1906)
- ★ Florence Nightingale, nurse (1820–1910)
- ★ Clara Barton, battlefield nurse (1821–1912)
- ★ Marie Curie, physicist (1867–1934)
- ★ Maria Montessori, educator (1870–1952)
- ★ Helen Keller, teacher and advocate for the blind (1880–1968)
- ★ Eleanor Roosevelt, first lady (1884–1962)
- ★ Martha Graham, dancer (1894–1991)
- ★ Georgia O'Keeffe, painter (1887–1986)
- ★ Amelia Earhart, pilot (1897–1937)
- ★ Golda Meir, Israeli prime minister (1898–1978)
- ★ Margaret Bourke-White, photographer (1904–1971)
- ★ Mother Teresa, Catholic nun (1910–1997)
- ★ Mildred "Babe" Didrikson Zaharias, track and field/golf star (1911–1956)
- ★ Eva Perón, Argentine first lady (1919–1952)
- ★ Margaret Thatcher, British prime minister (1925–)
- ★ Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, first lady (1929–1994)