



INTERNATIONAL DAY
OF WOMEN AND GIRLS
IN SCIENCE
FEBRUARY 11

History and Today: Inspiring Women

BOTANY: MARIE CLARK TAYLOR



BORN: Pennsylvania, USA, 1911

DIED: Washington, USA, 1990

WHAT WAS MARIE INTERESTED IN?

Marie was interested in the study of plants, which is known as Botany. Her specialist research interest was the effect of light on plant growth.

WHY DOES MARIE INSPIRE US?

- Marie was the first African-American woman to gain a PhD in botany, and the first woman to earn a PhD from Fordham University in 1941
- She served in the Army Red Cross during World War II
- She became head of the Botany department at Howard University
- Marie trained school teachers to look at real plant cells using microscopes with their pupils

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- How do you think Marie felt to be the very first woman to gain a PhD in botany?
- Chat to your teacher about why you think light is important for plants.

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT MARIE?

<https://www.womeninhorticulture.com/post/woman-of-firsts-marie-clark-taylor>