Rebecca Lee Crumpler: A Trailblazing Doctor and Leader

Rebecca Lee Crumpler was a remarkable woman who made history as the first African American woman to earn a medical degree in the United States. She was a pioneer in her field and a role model for generations of women and girls. This guided reading book tells the story of her life and accomplishments, and is perfect for elementary and middle school students.

Early Life and Education

Rebecca Lee Crumpler was born on February 8, 1831, in Christiana, Pennsylvania. Her parents were free black farmers who instilled in her a strong sense of independence and determination. As a child, Crumpler was a curious and intelligent student who loved to learn. She attended local schools and excelled in her studies.

In her late teens, Crumpler decided to pursue a career in medicine. At the time, there were few opportunities for African Americans to receive medical training. However, Crumpler was determined to overcome the obstacles that stood in her way. She applied to several medical schools but was rejected due to her race.



Rebecca Lee Crumpler, Leaders Like Us Series, Guided Reading Level O by Fred Van Lente

★★★★★ 4.5 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 1254 KB
Screen Reader : Supported
Print length : 25 pages

Undeterred, Crumpler continued to study on her own. She read medical books and attended lectures at the New England Female Medical College in Boston. In 1864, she finally achieved her dream of becoming a doctor when she graduated from the medical school at the University of Michigan.

Career as a Physician

After graduating from medical school, Crumpler moved to Richmond, Virginia, where she opened a medical practice. She was the only African American woman doctor in the city, and she faced many challenges in her work. She was often met with prejudice and discrimination, but she persevered and eventually gained the respect of her patients and colleagues.

Crumpler was a compassionate and dedicated physician who cared deeply for her patients. She provided medical care to people of all races and socioeconomic backgrounds, and she was known for her kindness and generosity. She also wrote a book on medical advice for women, which was published in 1883.

Legacy

Rebecca Lee Crumpler died on March 9, 1895, at the age of 64. She left behind a legacy of achievement and inspiration. She was a trailblazing doctor who paved the way for other women and girls to pursue careers in medicine. She was also a role model for all who face adversity and discrimination.

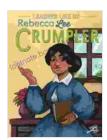
Crumpler's story is an important reminder that anything is possible if you have the determination and the courage to pursue your dreams. She is a true American hero who deserves to be remembered and celebrated for her many accomplishments.

Guided Reading Questions

- 1. Who was Rebecca Lee Crumpler?
- 2. What challenges did she face in her career?
- 3. How did she overcome these challenges?
- 4. What was her greatest accomplishment?
- 5. What is her legacy?

Further Reading

- Rebecca Lee Crumpler: The First African American Woman Doctor
- Trailblazing Doctor: Rebecca Lee Crumpler
- Rebecca Lee Crumpler, MD



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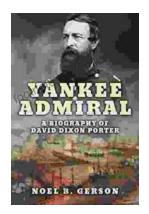
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