

Positive Character Traits

It is important for students to learn about and identify positive character traits of the Amazing Americans they will study in “Amazing Firsts”.

honesty	moral and trustworthy
perseverance	to be determined and persistent
generosity	giving to others
determination	having purpose and willpower
kindness	full of compassion
compassionate	sympathetic and concerned for others
intelligent	bright and smart
trustworthy	able to be trusted
thoughtful	caring and kind
self-reliant	able to rely on one’s self in order to succeed
eager	excited, ready, and willing
energetic	full of energy and liveliness
ambitious	having a strong desire to succeed

TERMS TO KNOW

Diversity

- the understanding and appreciating interdependence of humanity, cultures, and the natural environment
- practicing mutual respect for qualities and experiences that are different from our own

Equity

- fairness
- quality of being fair and impartial

Inclusion

- the organized effort in which different groups or individuals having different backgrounds are culturally and socially accepted and welcomed
- all groups are equally treated

Regardless of similarities or differences the person the students will learn about made significant contributions to society. Many of the people we will study did not receive the recognition they deserved for their accomplishments. They may have also faced discrimination and other hardships throughout their lives.

Week 1: Dr. Isabella Aiona Abbott

Reading Passage: Read the passage below to learn about the amazing accomplishments of **Dr. Isabella Aiona Abbott**.

A Dr. Isabella Abbott was born in 1919 in Hana, Maui. Her mother was a native Hawaiian and her father was Chinese. When her father immigrated to Hawaii as a teenager, he found work on a sugar plantation. Later, her father was able to start his own business as the owner of a general store.

B When Isabella was growing up, she and her mother would often go to the beach. She liked to collect and learn about different types of seaweed. Isabella also learned how to use the seaweed to cook **traditional** Hawaiian dishes.

C Soon Isabella became very **knowledgeable** about Hawaiian seaweed or Limu (the Hawaiian name for **edible** seaweed). She learned about more than seventy varieties of edible seaweed that people would be able to eat. She was very knowledgeable about plants that grow in the ocean.

D By the time she was in her early thirties, Isabella had earned her doctorate degree in science and had begun to teach and lecture college students. She earned a Ph.D. in botany from the University of California Berkeley. **Isabella was the first Native Hawaiian woman to earn a doctoral degree in science.** Isabella has discovered over 200 different algae species and many of them have been named for her. One of the species named for her is a division of the red algae family which is called Abbottella or “Little Abbott”. Dr. Abbott has written eight books and won many other **prestigious** awards in science.

Week 1: Dr. Isabella Aiona Abbott

Vocabulary: Use context clues to write the correct bold-faced vocabulary word from the passage next to its meaning below.

1. impressive: _____
2. long established _____
3. informed or educated: _____
4. able to be eaten: _____

Reading Comprehension: Read each question below then reread the passage on the previous page to locate the correct answer.

1. How did Isabella first learn about seaweed and plants as a child? _____

2. How many algae species have been discovered by Dr. Abbott? _____

3. Where did Isabella earn her Ph.D. in Botany? _____

4. What were some of her duties and responsibilities as a professor?

5. Name some of the other accomplishments of Dr. Abbott. _____

Week 1: Dr. Isabella Aiona Abbott

Reflection: Think about what each question below means and how it makes you feel. Write and discuss your answers.

1. What **amazing first** did **Dr. Abbott** accomplish? _____

2. Why are her accomplishments **significant**? _____

3. What is **different** about **Dr. Abbott's** life than your life? _____

4. Are there any **similarities** about your life and her life? _____

5. What do you think **motivated** Dr. Abbott to work so hard to become successful in her field?

Week 1: Dr. Isabella Aiona Abbott

6. What **positive character traits** are exhibited by Dr. Abbott?

Positive Character Traits: _____

What evidence did you read about in the passage that helps you understand some of those positive character traits? **Explain.**

7. What would be one important question you would ask Dr. Abbott if given the opportunity? **Explain.**
