Hoosiers Who Shaped Culture

Read how four people changed life in Indiana.

4.H.15 "Research and describe the contributions of important Indiana artists, writers, entrepreneurs, and public figures to the state's culture."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one action each person took, then circle words that show how the action changed Indiana's culture or opportunities.

Four Ways to Shape a State

1. What does Indiana look and sound like? Painter T. C. Steele showed its hills and woods in his paintings. He worked in Brown County, where other artists came to paint, too. Writer James Whitcomb Riley gave Indiana a voice. His poems used everyday speech and told stories about people and places he knew. His poem "Little Orphant Annie" became famous far beyond Indiana.

2. An idea can also change who gets a chance to work. In 1910, Madam C. J. Walker moved her growing hair care business to Indianapolis. Her company made products for Black women's hair and trained women to sell them. The work offered many Black women a way to earn money. Walker's business made Indianapolis a center for her growing company. Her success made Black women's work in business more visible in the city.

3. May Wright Sewall helped shape a different part of Indiana life. She worked for women's right to vote and helped start the Indianapolis Propylaeum, a place where women could meet and learn. Women used it for talks, classes, and cultural events. Sewall's work gave women more space to share ideas in the city. Together, these Hoosiers changed what people could see, read, do, and discuss.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did T. C. Steele help shape Indiana's art culture?

2. How did James Whitcomb Riley's poems share Indiana's culture with readers?

3. How did Madam C. J. Walker's Indianapolis business change opportunities for Black women?

4. How did May Wright Sewall make more room for women's voices in Indianapolis?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Plan a new exhibit item for an Indiana museum that connects two people from different fields in the passage. In three sentences, name the people, describe your item, and explain what it would help visitors understand about Indiana's culture.

ANSWER KEY

Hoosiers Who Shaped Culture

GRADE 4 · 4.H.15

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one action each person took, then circle words that show how the action changed Indiana's culture or opportunities. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did T. C. Steele help shape Indiana's art culture?	**He painted Indiana's hills and woods, and other artists came to paint in Brown County, where he worked.**
2	How did James Whitcomb Riley's poems share Indiana's culture with readers?	**His poems used everyday speech and told stories about people and places he knew. "Little Orphant Annie" became famous beyond Indiana.**
3	How did Madam C. J. Walker's Indianapolis business change opportunities for Black women?	**Her company trained women to sell hair care products, giving many Black women a way to earn money.**
4	How did May Wright Sewall make more room for women's voices in Indianapolis?	**She worked for women's right to vote and helped start a place where women could meet, learn, and share ideas.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

My exhibit connects T. C. Steele and James Whitcomb Riley. It has a painted scene of Indiana woods beside a recording of a new poem written in everyday speech. Visitors would see how paintings and poems can help people notice Indiana's places and voices.

Accept accurate descriptions of each person's work and its effect, even if students use different words. For the exhibit task, look for two people from different fields, a new item, and a clear connection to Indiana's culture.