

proteins, vitamins, gums, resins, sugars, starches. Through hundreds of experiments, he used the parts to make new products. Eventually he came up with over 300 new products made from peanuts.

This was the beginning of the synthetic age. George Washington Carver is considered by some to be the Father of Synthetics. Up until this time, farmers grew food for people or animals and materials for fabric. Now farmers could grow crops that would be used as raw materials for factories, creating new products.

George traveled to speak to groups of businessmen and politicians on behalf of the peanut. He became known as the Wizard of Tuskegee. He continued to work and experiment and paint until he died.

A small worm called the Boll Weevil came through the South and nearly wiped out the cotton crops. This pushed farmers to look for new crops and opened the door for George and his peanut.

**At this point in history, blacks had very few rights. The Civil War had given them freedom, but not equality. Throughout his life, George lived this inequality by the poor treatment he received from others. This injustice rightly angered George. This pushed him to work hard to help his people.**

#### **Dates**

1864--Born

1894--Graduated from Iowa State Agricultural College

1896--Became head of agricultural department at Tuskegee Institute

1943--Died

#### **Books**

George Washington Carver, the Story of a Great American by Anne Terry White  
J921 C (a Landmark book)

A Weed is a Flower, the Life of George Washington Carver by Alikei J921 CA

A Pocketful of Goobers, a Story about George Washington Carver by Barbara Mitchell  
J926 C25

George Washington Carver by Suzanne M. Coil J926.3 C25

Discovering with God Flashcard Story of the Great Scientist George Washington Carver  
(Child Evangelism Fellowship)

#### **Areas to Study**

plants

plant reproduction

differences between seeds and bulbs

plant food

synthetics

trees

peanuts

composting

helpful insects

boll weevil

nutrients in soil

night riders

crop rotation