

## **VOCABULARY:**

**Agronomist**

**Extraction**

**Access**

**Distillation**

**Dubious**

**Dilemma**

**Conspicuous**

**Cash crop**

**Advocacy**

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. How did George Washington Carver manage to become so well-educated despite being born into poverty and slavery?
2. How do you think Carver's early curiosity about art and nature shaped his focus on agriculture later in life?
3. Why did Carver originally start to experiment with soybeans and soybean oil? What uses for soybeans did he discover through his research?
4. Which of Carver's inventions do you think was most influential?
5. What were some of the uses of peanut oil? Why do you think Carver was so determined to find new uses for peanut oil and other experimental products?
6. Carver was always concerned that his inventions had a practical application. How does this differ from methods other scientists might use? Why do you think Carver emphasized usefulness?
7. Why do you think Carver turned down the opportunity to make more money and achieve more fame based on his inventions?
8. What do you think were George Washington Carver's top three priorities?
9. Who are some other inventors you admire other than Carver? What qualities do you think most inventors have in common?
10. What do you think is the most lasting legacy of Carver's life?