

Phillis Wheatley

Hello, my name is Phillis Wheatley. At the young age of 13, I became the first African American and second woman in the colonies to publish a book! When I was only 7 years old, I was taken from my land and sold into slavery. After being purchased by the Wheatley family, I worked in their home and was provided with an education. This was unheard of for an enslaved person and rare for women. I quickly mastered English and went on to learn Greek and Latin. I wrote poems about my Christian faith, the Revolution, and famous people like George Washington! He loved my poem so much that I was invited to read it to him.

Performance Instructions: Dress as a colonial woman and carry a copy of one of your poems. After speaking, hand it to the student playing George Washington.

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