



THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



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Trailblazer: Dorothy Butler Gilliam

Imagine being told you couldn't do something just because of the color of your skin. That's what happened to Dorothy Butler Gilliam.

Dorothy wanted to be a reporter at a major daily newspaper. When she first applied, she wasn't hired. But that didn't stop her from trying again.

In 1961, she became a trailblazer as the first African-American woman to work as a reporter at *The Washington Post*, one of the largest newspapers in the United States.



Photo: Harry Natchayan / Washington Post

HARD WORK

Reciting a Famous Poem

When Dorothy was a young girl, she memorized and recited the entire poem *'Twas The Night Before Christmas* at a church service. It took both the ability to read and hard work to accomplish that.

Dorothy was born in 1936. She recited the poem in church in 1942. How old was she then?

1942
– 1936

INFORMED

A Newspaper in the Home

Dorothy's father believed in being informed about the community and the world. He read two newspapers every day.

Fill in the missing vowels in this quote by Dorothy:

"My _w_r_ness of the n_wsp_p_r, through h_ving it in our h_m_, was one of the th_ngs that g_ve m_ the c_r_ge to _pply for a secretarial j_b at a n_wsp_p_r."

Dorothy's father became ill when she was 14. Their family moved to a small house in the country with no running water.

She was determined to go to school. She walked a half mile to catch a bus to a school for black children. Schools in Kentucky were segregated — they did not allow white and black students to attend the same school.

START Find the way to Dorothy's school?

Character Counts

For each of the following character traits, find a person in the newspaper who shows that trait.

- Hard Work
- Courage
- Perseverance
- Commitment

Standards Link: Understand the importance of character in a community.

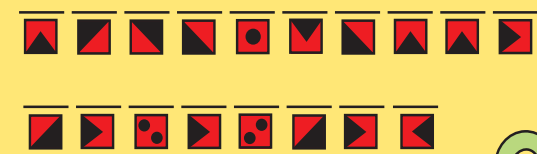
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DETERMINATION

Newspaper Delivery

At 9 years old, Dorothy sold and delivered the local newspaper to people in her Kentucky neighborhood. Years later, when she began to attend Ursuline College, she got a job as a secretary at the same newspaper. Use the code to discover the paper's name.



Number these lines in order to read the paragraph.

COURAGE

Career Start

- what she needed to succeed.
- to write some stories. With no
- courage and hard work to learn
- secretary, the editor asked her
- experience as a reporter, it took
- in her career as a journalist.
- A few weeks after starting as a
- It would be the first step

ADVENTURE

Stories of Africa

After graduating from Columbia University Dorothy received a scholarship to travel to Africa. An editor at *The Washington Post*, was interested in her trip. Few Americans, black or white, had ever traveled to Africa. He asked Dorothy to write articles about her experience. Because her articles were interesting and well written, she was offered a full-time job at the newspaper.

PERSEVERANCE

Opening the Front Door

The Washington Press Club _____ Dorothy with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010. Being the _____ black woman reporter at *The Washington Post* wasn't easy. When Dorothy arrived at a wealthy Washington woman's _____ to report on her 100th birthday party, the doorman told her she couldn't _____ through the front door. "The maid's entrance is around the back," he said.

"I am not a maid, I am a _____ for *The Washington Post*," she replied.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

What's a great way you can help someone today?



R _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _

Double Double Word Search

JOURNALIST
NEWSPAPER
REPORTER
DOROTHY
ABILITY
AFRICA
TRAITS
CHURCH
WRITE
HARD
WORK
MAID
TRIP
BUS
JOB

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?



Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

REPORTER'S CORNER

Choose a story about a person in this newspaper. Write or paste the headline in this box.

WHO is this story about?

What questions did the reporter ask to find out all about this person?

What other questions would you ask this person?

Standards Link: Reading/Writing: Draw evidence from informational text.

KID SCOOP'S MISSION

Children are born curious.

From their earliest days, sensory exploration brings delight and wonder. New discoveries expand their minds. When they unlock the joy of reading, their world widens further. **Magic happens.**

Kid Scoop opens the doors of discovery for elementary school children by providing interactive, engaging and relevant age-appropriate materials designed to awaken the magic of reading at school, at home, and throughout their lives.

For more information about our literacy non-profit, visit kidscoopnews.org

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:
TRAIT

The noun **trait** means something that makes a person, animal or thing different from another.

Hard working and determined were two of Dorothy's **traits**.

Try to use the word **traits** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Memorize It!

Imagine you are going to report the news orally — like a video news reporter! Read an article in today's newspaper and summarize it. Memorize your summary and present the news to your class from your memory.

Standards Link: Summarize main ideas in informational text.



Why are reporters often found at ice cream shops?

ANSWER: They're always looking for scoops.

Write On!

Good Leadership

What are the qualities of a good leader? Who do you know that is a good leader? Why do you think of that person?