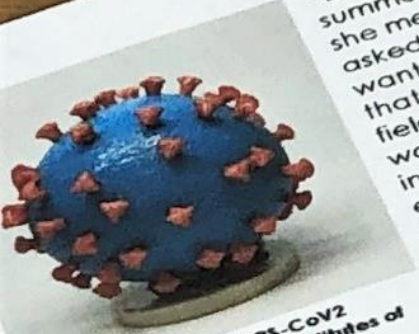


CAREERS IN STEM: Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett



3D print of SARS-CoV2
Photo from National Institutes of Health

"Dr." in front of her name. While she met with the director, Dr. Barney Grant asked her about her plans for the future, "want your job" (Ross). She impressed Grant that she planned to focus on rapid response in the field of study is instrumental in fighting emerging viruses. SARS and MERS were in 2014 and began working on measures. Those epidemics were a vaccine dissipated. Dr. Corbett said, "It was clear that it could happen in a matter of time" (Givens). Six years later, she was working side-by-side in Seattle.

Despite being at the top of her field, Dr. Corbett of her race and gender. Sometimes she is ignored that "some scientists...double-check her work" than her, even after being reminded that Dr. Corbett to Corbett, people will even thank her boss, Ross). In early March, President Trump and a panel update on the vaccine. Trump and a panel fielded many questions from reporters. Dr. Corbett is no stranger to challenges. She is celebrating the first human trial of a potential vaccine. However, caution a long road ahead. One will involve testing three billion people. If successful, the trial will emphasize the importance of a vaccine.



Nouvelle ELA

A PORTRAIT OF AN IMMUNOLOGIST: *Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett* By Leila Hobbs



Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett
Self-portrait in the public domain

The first known death from COVID-19 in the United States was on February 6th, 2020. A mere five weeks later, the first potential vaccine entered human trials. One person who made this possible is Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett.

On Monday, March 16th, the first human subject in Seattle, Washington received a trial vaccine for COVID-19. "I hope that we get to a working vaccine quickly and that we can save lives," the volunteer subject said (Forster). The vaccine is being developed by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), a department of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Because of the urgency of the outbreak, production of the trial vaccine was groundbreakingly fast. Medical professionals around the world accelerated a process that often takes months or years into just 65 days — from the time Chinese researchers sequenced the virus' DNA to the first trial in humans. While no single person creates a vaccine, some stand out from the crowd for their knowledge, effort, and dedication. One such individual is Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett.

From an early age, Dr. Corbett was exceptional. "Kizzie was always like a little detective," her mother remembers fondly. When Corbett showed an early aptitude for mathematics, her third-grade teacher...

NONFICTION ARTICLE

A PORTRAIT OF AN IMMUNOLOGIST: Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett
By Leila Hobbs

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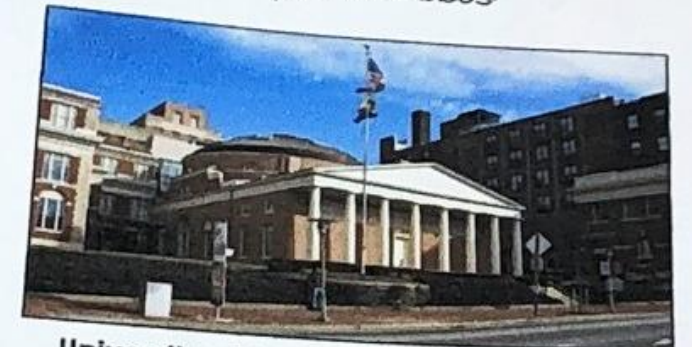
Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett
Self-portrait in

From an early age, she was a "mathematical detective," her parents noted. Her interest in mathematics began in childhood at the University of Maryland. This program is one of the most rigorous in the American South. She is currently a senior and a member of Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

PORTRAIT OF AN IMMUNOLOGIST: Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett

BEFORE READING

Important Places:



University of Maryland Medical School
This is where people study medicine and become doctors.

DURING READING

Why is each institution important to Dr. Corbett's story?

Students read an article about a researcher's career.

A PORTRAIT OF AN IMMUNOLOGIST

Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett

By Leila Hobbs
The first known case of COVID-19 in the United States was reported in early 2020. A man, five weeks later, was the first human to receive a vaccine. How did this become possible?



COVID-19 in the United States was reported in early 2020. A man, five weeks later, was the first human to receive a vaccine. How did this become possible?

"Dr." in formal settings she met with people who asked her what she wanted to do in that field. She worked in a laboratory in 2013.



3D print of SARS-CoV2
Photo from National Institutes of Health

Despite being at the top of her race and gender, that "some scientists... than her, even gender to Corbett, people who update in early March fielded many questions only Black person Dr. Corbett is and will continue to be necessary." (Ross)

INFORMATIONAL WRITING: *Portrait of a Researcher*



Let's look at the model text.



- Circle direct quotes.
- Underline information about important institutions.
- Star adjectives that describe Dr. Corbett.

How does each supporting detail help us understand Dr. Corbett's story?

- 1 From an early age, Dr. Corbett was exceptional. "Kizzie was always like a little detective," her mother remembers fondly.
- 2 When Corbett showed an early aptitude for mathematics, her third-grade teacher advised her parents to push the inquisitive child academically (Ross).
- 3 Corbett completed her undergraduate degree in biology at the University of Maryland on full ride as part of the Meyerhoff Scholars program. This program has helped the U of M produce "the nation's largest number of African Americans who earn medical and doctoral degrees" (Ross).
- 4 Keith Harmon, the program's director, believes that "there is such untapped, unrecognized and un-nurtured (ability) among students... particularly among our under-represented minority students" (Ross). The program recognized Corbett's potential and gave her a firm foundation for her medical career.

They identify key ideas and details.

INFORMATIONAL WRITING: Portrait of a Researcher

What people and places are important in your researcher's story? Why?



Find three quotes about your researcher or their work. These can be from other people or from the researcher. (Don't forget to cite your source)

Summarize your researcher's past contribution they're working on now in an optimistic way.



INFORMATIONAL WRITING: Portrait of a Researcher

Choose a person doing medical research. You can choose one from the people below or find one on your own. Write a short profile of the researcher and their work. Be sure to include important institutions and people who have influenced your researcher's career. Also, include at least one quote from your researcher.



Dr. Françoise Barré-Sinoussi
French researcher who figured out HIV causes AIDS, and won a Nobel Prize in medicine.



Dame Harriette Chick
British microbiologist and nutritionist. She discovered that a vitamin D deficiency was causing Rickets.



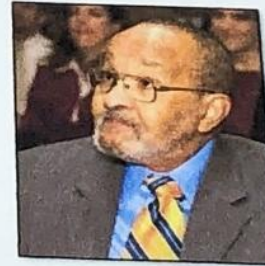
Dr. Heinz Feldmann
German researcher who helped develop the first Ebola vaccine.



Dr. Gita Ramjee
South African-Ugandan HIV researcher focused on HIV prevention in women.



Dr. Jane C. Wright
American surgeon and pioneer in cancer treatment



Dr. Emmett Chappelle
American biochemist who worked for NASA.



Dr. R. Kip Guy
Dean of the University of



Dr. Marie Maynard Daly
First Black woman awarded a PHD in

They choose another researcher to research, focusing on details like education, mentors, and institutional guidance

This nonfiction activity was originally created to accompany the digital breakout series, TERMINUS. Players practice inferencing and critical thinking as they find clues and solve the mystery!

[Learn More](#)

