



YouthREAD 2024

Grades 9-12
Book Selection

HIDDEN FIGURES

Written by Margot Lee Shetterly

Hidden Figures is the true story of NASA's African-American female mathematicians who played a crucial role in America's space program. Working as 'Human Computers,' they calculated flight paths, using pencil and paper to write the equations that would launch rockets and astronauts into space.

Join our CommunityREAD by reading and sharing this book, then enrich the experience with these questions and activities.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

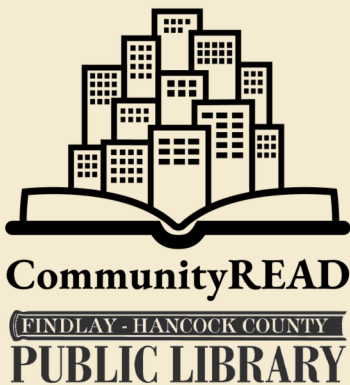
- Many of the women who began working for NACA were expecting temporary work, filling shortages left by men fighting in World War II. Yet these women went on to achieve long-term employment and make significant contributions to the fields of aeronautics and astronautics. Has anything in your life ever seemed small or inconsequential at first, only to make a larger impact you didn't expect?
- Shetterly writes, "Being on the leading edge of integration was not for the faint of heart." If you had been in their shoes, do you think you could have faced and overcome the same challenges as the women in West Computing? Were these women born courageous, or do you think they became so after facing challenges at Langley and in day-to-day segregated life?
- *Hidden Figures* became a *New York Times* bestseller, inspired a major motion picture, and has been read and discussed by readers of all ages and backgrounds. Why do you think stories like this one are so popular? Why are they so important to read and understand?

ACTIVITIES

- Go to NASA's women-at-NASA webpage and learn how women are making history every day. Choose a woman to research and learn about her role at NASA.
- Go to NASA's women-in-STEM-careers webpage and learn about the different career options available. Choose one career option you're interested in and do further research. What education would you need to be successful? What other companies could you work for?



Share what you did with the library on Facebook (facebook.com/FHCPL) or Instagram (@FHCPL).



WHAT IS COMMUNITYREAD?

CommunityREAD is a month-long community event that encourages reading and discussion. Each year, a different CommunityREAD book is chosen, along with a selection of YouthREAD books that explore similar topics and themes for younger readers.

The 2024 CommunityREAD book is
Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly.

2024 YOUTHREAD TITLES

- PreK-Grade 2: *Hello, Star* by Stephanie V.W. Lucianovic
- Grades 3-5: *Hidden Figures* (Picture Book Edition) by Margot Lee Shetterly with Winifred Conkling
- Grades 6-8: *Hidden Figures: Young Readers Edition* by Margot Lee Shetterly
- Grades 9-12: *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly
- BONUS BOOK Grades K-5: *Eclipse* by Andy Rash

