




History Focus: The lives of significant individuals in the past.	Dr Mae Jemison	Year 1
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(Key Vocabulary / Definitions)

Astronaut	a person who is trained to travel in a spacecraft.
Engineer	a person who controls an engine, especially on an aircraft or ship
Physician	a person qualified to practise medicine, especially one who specializes in diagnosis and medical treatment as distinct from surgery
NASA	(in the US) National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Dr Mae Jemison Key Knowledge

		
Who is Dr Mae Jemison?	Mae Jemison was the first African American woman to become an astronaut. She was a part of the crew of the space shuttle Endeavour, which orbited Earth for more than a week in 1992.	
How famous is Dr Mae Jemison?	She was one of only 15 out of 2,000 applicants accepted by NASA. Jemison entered NASA's astronaut program in 1987.	
What was her work like?	She read chemical engineering and joined the Peace Corps in 1983 before joining NASA in 1987.	
What is she famous for?	She was the first African American woman in space.	
		
When was she born ?	She was born on October 17, 1956, in Decatur, Alabama. She was the youngest of three children.	
What is Dr Mae Jemison known for?	After retiring from NASA in 1993, Jemison founded her own company, the Jemison Group. The company created new technologies, especially to help developing countries. Jemison also created an international science camp for teenagers.	