

The Doctor with an Eye for Eyes: The Story of Dr. Patricia Bath
Discussion Guide
Grades Pre-K – 4th

Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.

- This book begins during the Civil Rights Movement. Use [this video](#) to help your students build background knowledge. Discuss with your students how the photographs at the beginning of the video are in black and white and this is one clue that tells us this happened in the past.
- Ask students if they have ever visited an eye doctor before. Point to the images of the seeing eye chart and ophthalmoscope on the cover to activate prior knowledge.
- Introduce vocabulary: blindness, ophthalmology, lasers

During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections.

- What gift led Patricia to want to become a doctor? Make a connection, have you ever received a gift or met someone who inspired you?
- Why did Patricia have to take a train to school?
- What did Dr. Bath notice about her patients that was unfair? What did she do about this?
- Why did Dr. Bath travel and what did she learn from her travels?
- What did Dr. Bath invent?
- What place did Dr. Bath create that brought hope for so many?
- What do you think it means that a healthy vision is everyone's right?

After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.

- Ask students to reflect on how their lives would be different if they could not see. Then share out the importance of Dr. Bath's work on giving people the ability to see.
- The back of the book contains a timeline of Dr. Bath's life and accomplishments.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books about women in STEM such as [The Girl Who Thought in Pictures](#) or [Counting on Katherine](#).