

## Technology and Inventions

Fill in the circle by the correct answer. Then write the answers to numbers 3, 4, and 5.

1. A search-and-rescue drone would likely be used to \_\_\_\_\_.  
Ⓐ protect people from natural disasters  
Ⓑ help with food preparation  
Ⓒ go to locations that are too dangerous for people  
Ⓓ make people feel comfortable in their homes
2. Why does the author include the questions in the table?  
Ⓐ These are the only important questions about society.  
Ⓑ The answers to all the questions can be found in the text.  
Ⓒ The author wants readers to memorize the answers to the questions.  
Ⓓ The questions encourage readers to think about different aspects of society.
3. How does the author support the idea that technology reveals information about society?  
\_\_\_\_\_

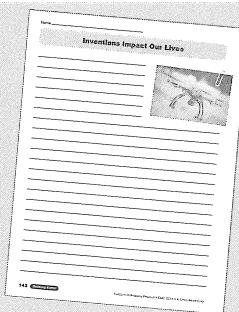
4. Write one of the main ideas from the text.  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. People have invented things for centuries. What does this say about us?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

What can you infer about a community from looking at its technology? Use a specific community as an example.



# Augusta Savage

## Level 1 ■■

Words to Know list, Reading Selection, and Reading Comprehension questions

**Augusta Savage's Work**

Fill in the circle by the correct answer.

**Augusta Savage's Work**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Who was Augusta Savage? She was a woman who inspired people with art and determination.

**What did Augusta do?** Augusta was an African American artist and sculptor in the U.S. She taught art classes to African American children. She did a lot of work to support Sprouts, Florida, the women and children there.

**How did Augusta express her artistic skill?** Augusta's first love was painting, but she turned to sculpture. She found it to be a more intense way of creating art. She painted every day because it was the first thing she did when she got up. When she was fifteen, her family moved to New York City. There, she worked at a factory that did not have much room to do art. She found a place to paint in her basement. This is where she first started creating figures and critters that she could sell. She sold them to her friends and family. Her work became so popular that they gave her the nickname "the Negro Girl Sculptor".

**What challenges did Augusta overcome?** Augusta's mother was very supportive of her interests in art. Her father, however, was not. He thought it would take away from his wife's chance for success and fame. In 1922, Augusta applied to study art at the Art Students League. She was rejected for being a "nonwhite" prospective student of color. This was very hurtful to her. Augusta did not give up. She continued to work hard and to challenge the negative thoughts about her. This included the negative responses to her art. Another challenge Augusta faced was when her family moved to New York. They had no money to live on, so Augusta had to move in with her in New York.

Was Augusta ever successful? Yes! She sold her art to other artists and taught art for many years. Her work was also displayed at art shows all over the country. Her art didn't provide enough money for her to live off of, but she did work in art most of her life until she passed away in 1962.

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Augusta Savage N

## Level 2 ■■■

Words to Know list, Reading Selection, and Reading Comprehension questions

**An Artist and Activist**

Fill in the circle by the correct answer.

**An Artist and Activist**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**An Artist and Activist**

Augusta was born on February 29, 1892. She became one of America's most famous and important African American artists, and she is remembered for having extraordinary determination and commitment to her art.

**An Artist Who Wanted to Be a Sculptor**

Augusta was the seventh of fourteen children. From a very early age, she wanted to create small animal figurines. She used sticks and clay to create small animal figurines. The clay was very messy, and her mother didn't want her to make a mess. She cleaned up the mess, and her father didn't support her making animal figurines. Even when her family moved back to New York, there were three more children born into the family. This caused a lot of trouble. Through these struggles and having a positive attitude, Augusta got through them and became a well-known artist.

**Augusta Challenged Racism**

As an adult, Augusta moved to New York City to study art. In 1923, she applied to study at the Art Students League. She was rejected because she was black. Augusta appealed again to study at the Art Students League. The next time was completely until 1926, when Augusta received her diploma. She had to pass on her own. Augusta's art was finally noticed. She became the first African American woman to receive a solo exhibition at her art show.

**Augusta Supported Other Artists**

In the years that followed, Augusta opened the Savage Studio in New York City, where she taught and sold art. She helped the other artists find jobs in the art world. She helped the other sculptors get into art fairs and helped them to create a better environment for people to look at their art. She often worked with other sculptors to help them get noticed. Augusta lived target to target. She traveled to schools to teach and inspire students. Augusta spent the last decades of her life teaching art. In 1962, she died of complications and the passed away on May 29, 1962 in New York City.

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Augusta Savage N

## Level 3 ■■■■

Words to Know list, Reading Selection, and Reading Comprehension questions

**Augusta's Life**

Fill in the circle by the correct answer.

**Augusta's Life**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Augusta's Life**

Augusta Savage was a well-known sculptor and activist, and she is remembered as an important person in African American history.

**Augusta's Determination**

From an early age, Augusta was interested in sculpting, and would use natural red clay to make her sculptures. She had no formal training, but she taught herself how to sculpt. She had a talent for making figures that were very lifelike. She created her first sculpture when she was five years old, and she continued sculpting when her family moved to New York. She even had a studio in her basement, where there was no electricity or heat. She sold her sculptures from a local police station. Through these struggles and having a positive attitude, Augusta got through them and became a well-known artist.

**As an adult, Augusta moved to New York to study art at a school called the Art Students League. In 1923, she applied to study at the Art Students League. She was rejected because she was black. Augusta appealed again to study at the Art Students League. The next time was completely until 1926, when Augusta received her diploma. She had to pass on her own. Augusta's art was finally noticed. She became the first African American woman to receive a solo exhibition at her art show.**

**Augusta's Art**

One of Augusta's most famous sculptures is "Gorda", based on a Illinois of her friend, Mrs. M. H. Kelly. She had a desire to create art that reflected African Americans. She chose to do this because she knew that art was often negative towards African Americans. One of Augusta's most breathtaking sculptures is "Lift Every Voice and Sing". She is a bust of a young African American girl. Augusta got inspiration for this sculpture from her mother, who had a very strong voice. She was approached to do this sculpture after her mother's death.

**Augusta's Activism**

It was important for Augusta to create art accessible to all. She opened the Savage Studio in New York City, where she taught art to people of all ages. She also helped them to sell their art. She helped them to find jobs in the art world. She helped the other sculptors to get noticed. Augusta's goal was to make art accessible for people of all races to see and appreciate.

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Augusta Savage N

## Assemble the Unit

Reproduce and distribute one copy for each student:

- Visual Literacy page: Augusta Savage, page 151
- Level 1, 2, or 3 Reading Selection and Reading Comprehension page and the corresponding Words to Know list
- Graphic Organizer of your choosing, provided on pages 180–186
- Writing Form: Augusta Savage, page 152

## Introduce the Topic

Read aloud and discuss the Augusta Savage text and photos.

Explain that Augusta was an important person in African American history because she helped make art more accessible to African Americans, and she portrayed African Americans in her art.

## Read and Respond

Form leveled groups and review the Words to Know lists with each group of students. Instruct each group to read their selection individually, in pairs, or as a group. Have students complete the Reading Comprehension page for their selection.

## Write About the Topic

Read aloud the leveled writing prompt for each group. Tell students to use the Graphic Organizer to plan their writing. Direct students to use their Writing Form to respond to their prompt.

**Augusta Savage**

Augusta Savage was a well-known African American sculptor. She is remembered for her determination, her art, and activism. Augusta was an important figure in African American history.

**Augusta began sculpting with natural red clay when she was five years old. She continued to make art in the local environment where she grew up.**

**Augusta Savage N**

Augusta Savage N

**Augusta Savage**

Augusta Savage was a woman who inspired people with art and determination. She was a sculptor and activist, and is remembered for her determination, her art, and activism. Augusta was an important figure in African American history.

**Augusta began sculpting with natural red clay when she was five years old. She continued to make art in the local environment where she grew up.**

**Augusta Savage N**

Augusta Savage N

## Visual Literacy

**Augusta Savage**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Augusta Savage**

**Augusta Savage**

Augusta Savage was a woman who inspired people with art and determination. She was a sculptor and activist, and is remembered for her determination, her art, and activism. Augusta was an important figure in African American history.

**Augusta began sculpting with natural red clay when she was five years old. She continued to make art in the local environment where she grew up.**

**Augusta Savage N**

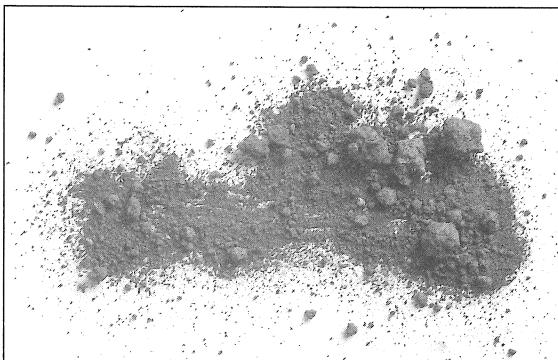
Augusta Savage N

## Writing Form

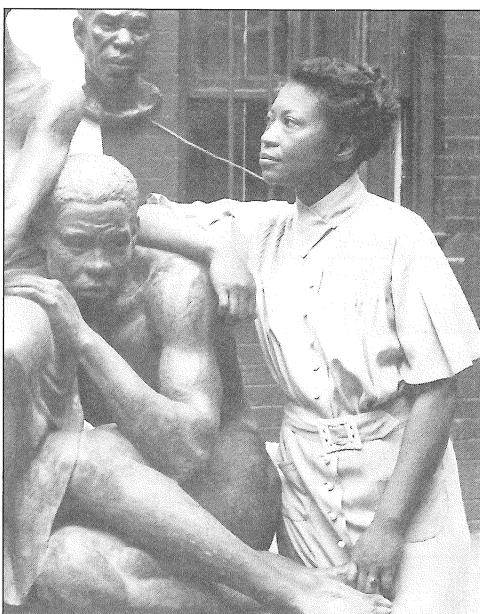
# Augusta Savage

**Augusta Savage** was a well-known sculptor and activist. She is remembered for her extraordinary determination, art, and activism. Augusta was an important artist and person in African American history.

Augusta began sculpting with natural red clay, which was abundant in the local environment where she grew up.



Natural red clay powder



Augusta standing beside one of her sculptures



Augusta Savage's best-known work of the 1920s was this sculpture, *Gamin*.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Augusta Savage



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### **Words to Know**

#### **Augusta Savage's Work**

sculpting

displayed

abundant

potter

prominent

overcome

committee

hurricane

### **Words to Know**

#### **An Artist and Activist**

sculptor

extraordinary

abundant

potter

applicants

committee

recognized

rejection

numerous

founders

### **Words to Know**

#### **Augusta Savage's Life**

sculptor

potter

committee

rejected

recognized

advantage

likeness

breathtaking

popularly

accessible

Augusta Savage ■

Augusta Savage ■ ■

Augusta Savage ■ ■ ■



# Augusta Savage's Work

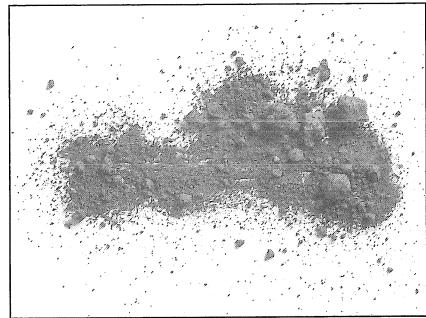
Have you heard the name Augusta Savage? She was a woman who inspired people with her art and determination.

## Who was Augusta Savage?

Augusta Savage was a well-known artist, activist, and educator in the U.S. She was born as Augusta Christine Fells on February 29, 1892, in Green Cove Springs, Florida. She was one of fourteen children. She did a lot of work to support other African American artists.

## How did Augusta develop her artistic skill?

Augusta made a name for herself by sculpting. At a very young age, she displayed a strong interest in creating art. She used natural red clay because it was free and abundant in her local environment. When she was fifteen, her family moved to a different town in Florida that did not have red clay in the environment. Fortunately, Augusta was able to get sculpting materials from a local potter. She created figures and entered them in a county fair competition. She had a booth to sell them, and her work was so popular that they gave her an award. Augusta caught the attention of a prominent member of the community, George Graham Currie. He had organized the fair, and he encouraged Augusta to continue sculpting and studying art.



Natural red clay powder

## What challenges did Augusta overcome?

When Augusta was young, her family wasn't supportive of her interest in art. As an adult, she moved to New York City to study art at the Cooper Union, a school for science and art. In 1923, Augusta applied for a learning program overseas, in France. She was rejected by a selection committee because of racism. This made her more determined to be accepted into the program. She contacted local newspapers and tried to challenge the injustice done to her. Ultimately, she didn't get accepted into that program. Another challenge Augusta faced was when her family's home was destroyed in a hurricane. She helped her parents, having them move in with her in New York.



Augusta working intently on a sculpture

## Was Augusta's art career successful?

Augusta influenced other artists and taught art for many years. Her own art career didn't provide enough income for her to live off of, but she was able to do work related to art for most of her life until she passed away in 1962.

## Augusta Savage's Work

Fill in the circle by the correct answer. Then write the answers to numbers 3, 4, and 5.

1. Augusta showed determination by \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A sculpting with her thirteen siblings  
 B using red clay to create sculptures  
 C finding a way to sculpt after not being able to get red clay  
 D spending money on expensive sculpting materials
2. In the photo, Augusta appears as though she is probably \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A content  
 B confused  
 C stressed out  
 D bored
3. Do you think the county fair was an important event in Augusta's life?  
 Why or why not?  


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4. Did Augusta respond appropriately to the selection committee's decision?  
 Why or why not?  


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5. Why do you think Augusta supported other African American artists?  


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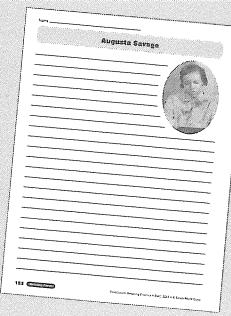
  


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### Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Explain how Augusta showed determination in pursuing her interests despite obstacles. Use details from the text.

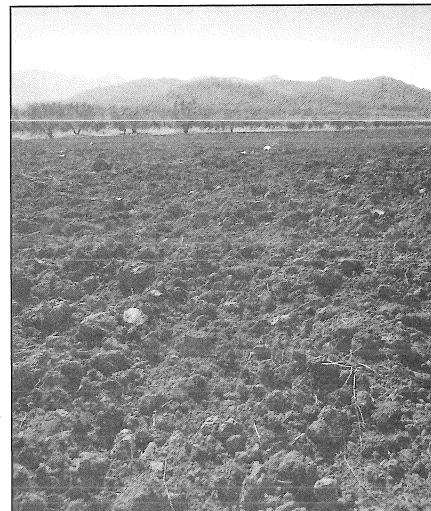


# An Artist and Activist

Augusta Savage was born on February 29, 1892. She became a well-known sculptor and African American activist, and she is remembered for having extraordinary determination throughout her life.

## Augusta Knew She Wanted to Be a Sculptor

Augusta was the seventh of fourteen children. From a very early age, she was interested in sculpting. She would use natural red clay to create small animal figures. The red clay was free and abundant in the local environment. Augusta's family wasn't wealthy, and her father didn't support her interest in art. Still, Augusta didn't give up on sculpting. Even when her family moved to a new town, where there was no red clay, she found a way to sculpt by getting materials from a local potter. Through three marriages and having one daughter, Augusta continued to work in the field of art.



Natural red clay in field

## Augusta Challenged Racism

As an adult, Augusta moved to New York City to study art. In 1923, she applied for an art program in France. Applicants had to be approved by a selection committee. Augusta's application was rejected simply because she was black. The committee's decision was based on race, and Augusta recognized that its decision was completely unfair. She didn't simply accept the rejection. She sent numerous letters to newspapers, and her story made headlines. Although the committee's decision remained unchanged, Augusta didn't stop trying to make progress for African American artists' rights.



Young Augusta Savage working on her art

## Augusta Supported Other African American Artists

In the years that followed, Augusta started the Savage Studio of Arts and Crafts, where she taught and created art. She also helped found the Harlem Artists' Guild and the Harlem Community Art Center. The guild's goal was to create a free, accessible environment for people of all races to receive art instruction. Augusta and the other founders believed art was central to community. Augusta directed and taught at the center when it opened.

Augusta spent the last decades of her life teaching art. In 1960, she moved in with her daughter, and she passed away in 1962 in New York City.

## An Artist and Activist

Fill in the circle by the correct answer. Then write the answers to numbers 3, 4, and 5.

1. It was difficult for Augusta to develop her sculpting skills \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A with red clay  
 B at the Harlem Community Art Center  
 C at the Savage Studio of Arts and Crafts  
 D with little support from her father
  2. Augusta was the director of the art center most likely because \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A she had the least amount of experience with art  
 B she was passionate about supporting other African American artists  
 C nobody else believed in the cause of supporting other artists  
 D free art instruction wouldn't provide a large income
  3. Describe how Augusta responded to struggles in her life.
- 
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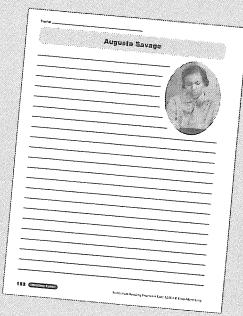
4. How does the author support the idea that Augusta was an activist?
- 
- 

5. What do you admire or dislike about Augusta Savage? Explain why.
- 
- 

### Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Describe three personality traits that you think Augusta had, and support these statements using text details.



# Augusta Savage's Life

Augusta Savage was a well-known sculptor and activist, and she is remembered as an important person in African American history.

## Augusta's Determination

From an early age, Augusta was interested in sculpting and would use natural red clay to create small animal figures. Augusta's father didn't support her interest in art, but she continued sculpting because she felt that she had to create things. Even when her family moved to a new location where there was no red clay, she found a way to sculpt by getting materials from a local potter.



As an adult, Augusta moved to New York to study art at a school called the Cooper Union. In 1923, she applied to join an art program in France. Applicants had to be approved by a selection committee. Augusta's application was rejected simply because she was black. Augusta recognized that the committee made its decision based on her race. She responded by contacting newspapers, and her story made headlines. However, the committee's decision remained unchanged. Later, Augusta got another opportunity to go overseas, although she was unable to take advantage of it. Still, Augusta continued to work as an artist.

## Augusta's Art

One of Augusta's most famous sculptures is *Gamin*, based on a likeness of her own nephew. It depicts a young African American man. Augusta also sculpted a bust of the well-known African American writer W.E.B. Du Bois. She often sculpted likenesses of African American leaders. One of Augusta's most breathtaking sculptures was *Lift Every Voice and Sing*. It is popularly known as *The Harp*. In the 1930s, Augusta was a highly respected artist. She was approached to create this sculpture for the 1939 New York World's Fair.

## Augusta's Activism

It was important to Augusta to make art accessible to African Americans. Augusta started the Savage Studio of Arts and Crafts, where she taught and created art. She helped found the Harlem Artists' Guild and the Harlem Community Art Center. The guild's goal was to create a free, accessible environment for people of all races to receive art instruction.



Augusta's best-known work in the 1920s was a bust of her nephew.