Giant Flowers

When a friend asked Georgia O'Keefe what she wanted to be when she grew up she replied, "I'm going to be an artist."

Georgia was only twelve years old and in eighth grade but she already knew where she wanted to go in life. In high school Georgia signed up for an art class where one day the teacher brought in a jack-in-the-pulpit flower. After that lesson Georgia became intrigued with the idea of painting plants and flowers.

Upon graduation from high school in 1905 she announced, "I am going to give up everything for art." The fall after graduation she studied at the famous Chicago Art Institute but it wasn't until 1924 when she was living in New York City that she revisited her ideas about painting flowers. She didn't paint ordinary flowers; she painted giant flowers.

She explained her idea years later after she became famous, saying, "So I said to myself – I'll paint what I see – what the flower is to me, but I'll paint it big, and they will be surprised into taking time to look at it – I will make even busy New Yorkers take the time to see what I see of flowers."

In Georgia O'Keefe's era most people believed that only men could become famous artists. After she became famous for her flowers, she decided to paint the scenes of New York City, where she lived. Again, years later she wrote, "Of course, I was told it was an impossible idea – even the men hadn't done too well with it. From my teens on, I had been told that I had crazy notions, so I was accustomed to disagreement and went on with my idea of painting New York."



Georgia O'Keefe is also famous for her unusual paintings of the American Southwest. She died in 1986 at ninety-eight years of age.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Multiple Choice Questions

Circle the correct answer.

1. How old was Georgia O'Keefe when she said she wanted to be an artist?

   a. 10 years old
   b. 12 years old
   c. 14 years old

2. Georgia O'Keefe became intrigued with painting flowers while

   a. In elementary school
   b. In high school
   c. At the Chicago Art Institute

3. She began painting flowers when she was living in

   a. New York City
   b. Chicago
   c. Los Angeles

4. She also painted the images of the buildings of

   a. New York City
   b. Chicago
   c. Los Angeles

5. Later in her life Georgia O'Keefe painted scenes of the American

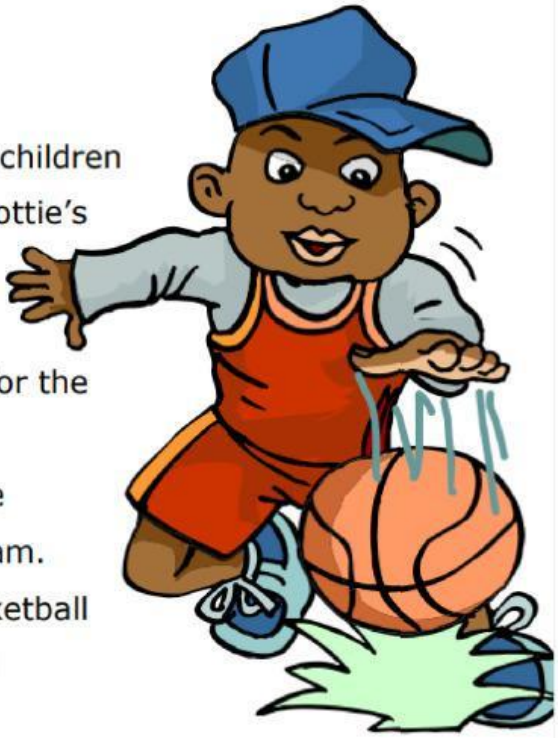
   a. Pacific Coast
   b. Great Lakes
   c. Southwest

6. How old was Georgia O'Keefe when she died?

   a. 86
   b. 96
   c. 98

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Scottie



Scottie started life as the youngest of twelve children in a town of just 3,000 people in rural Arkansas. Scottie's entire family lived in a four-room house. His Dad worked for the local paper mill and his Mom washed floors at the bank at night to earn enough for the family.

Scottie's liked sports and played Little League baseball; he even earned a spot on the All-Stars team. Most of all, Scottie and his friends liked to play basketball and dreamed of becoming NBA (National Basketball Association) professional players.

So Scottie tried out for the high school basketball team. The rule for being on the basketball team was either to practice with the football team in the fall or take the weightlifting course. His tall skinny body wasn't suited for the rough football practice so he started lifting weights. He hated lifting weights but made the basketball team his sophomore year.

In his junior year he skipped the weightlifting and decided to be the manager of the football team instead. When he appeared for basketball practice, the coach would not let him on the team because he didn't follow the rules. Eventually the coach allowed him to be on the team if he ran up and down the gym bleachers after every practice to make up for missing weightlifting. This was his punishment for not following the rules.

Scottie played basketball well in his senior year, graduating in 1983, but none of the Arkansas colleges invited him to join their teams. He finally played basketball for the University of Central Arkansas but was dropped from the team in his sophomore year because of poor grades. At this point, Scottie realized he had to follow all the rules if he wanted to be a successful basketball player.

After graduating from college, Scottie Pippen was selected to join the Chicago Bulls pro basketball team. He was recognized as one of the top 50 players in the game on the NBA's fiftieth anniversary in 1997.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Multiple Choice Questions

Circle the correct answer.

1. Where did Scottie Pippen grow up?

    a. Arkansas
    b. Alabama
    c. Missouri

2. How many brothers and sisters did Scottie have?

    a. 10
    b. 11
    c. 12

3. Before going to high school Scottie made the All-Stars team in

    a. Baseball
    b. Football
    c. Basketball

4. In order to make the high school basketball team athletes had to

    a. Run up and down the bleachers
    b. Practice with the football team or lift weights
    c. Lift weights and run up and down the bleachers

5. Why was Scottie Pippen dropped from the college basketball team?

    a. He didn't lift weights
    b. He didn't run up and down the bleachers
    c. He didn't keep his grades up

6. What NBA team did Scottie Pippen play for?

    a. Lakers
    b. Bulls
    c. Pacers

LIVEWORKSHEETS