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How the Celebra- tion Month Be- gan...

At the beginning of the twentieth century, not one history textbook had any mention of the achievements or contributions of Black Americans. There was no citation on George Washing-
ton Carver

(1864-1943),
botanist
and inven-
tor. Although

born into slavery, Carver was the first Black American to enter the Iowa State Agricultural College. He received a master's degree in agriculture in 1896. In the textbooks, there was no citation crediting Carver for the 100 products he developed from peanuts that we are still using today.



Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the “Father of Black History”, began to notice the lack of information on America’s Black population in history books. To combat this, he found-