# Teacher Resource Set

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Florence Rena Sabin</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developed by</td>
<td>Elizabeth Duncan and Rae Harris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade Level</td>
<td>3 - 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essential Question</td>
<td>In what ways was - and is- Florence Sabin’s life an inspiration to people who want to make a difference?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contextual Paragraph</td>
<td>Florence Sabin was a Colorado pioneer girl who grew up to become a famous scientist, professor, and public health advocate. She was the first woman professor at Johns Hopkins University, a researcher looking for a cure for tuberculosis, and the author of Colorado’s public health laws that made the state healthier for all its citizens. To acknowledge her contributions, a statue of Florence Sabin stands in the National Statuary Hall in the U. S. Capitol.</td>
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## Resource Set

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<tr>
<th>Water Wagon in Central City</th>
<th>Dr. Florence Sabin (1871-1953)</th>
<th>Sabin home in Central City</th>
<th>Johns Hopkins University</th>
<th>Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research</th>
<th>Health to Match Our Mountains</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Florence Sabin grew up in Central City.</td>
<td>An article about the life and contributions of Dr. Sabin.</td>
<td>c. 1860 to 1875 Pat Casey Road</td>
<td>A photograph of Hopkins Medical School and article about the life and contributions of Dr. Sabin.</td>
<td>Photo of Dr. Sabin with her microscope.</td>
<td>An article about the life and contributions of Dr. Sabin, published by the Denver Public Library with historic photos.</td>
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<td>Florence was inspired, in part, to pursue a career in health because of the unsanitary conditions she experienced as a child. Water was delivered by trucks and was often contaminated.</td>
<td>Photograph of Dr. Sabin</td>
<td>Home where the Sabin family had weekly water delivery that Florence’s mother had to boil before using.</td>
<td>Dr. Sabin was among one of the first women admitted to the medical school at Johns Hopkins. She also taught at the medical school.</td>
<td>Dr. Sabin worked at the Rockefeller Institute in New York conducting research on the cause of tuberculosis.</td>
<td>As chair of the Colorado Subcommittee on Public Health, Dr. Sabin organized a successful campaign to garner public support for the laws she was proposing.</td>
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<td>Florence attended Smith College where she pursued her passion for the sciences.</td>
<td>This is building Dr. Sabin lived in when she “retired” to Colorado in 1937.</td>
<td>Florence attended Smith College in Massachusetts, where she studied the sciences.</td>
<td>After her mother died, Florence and her sister Mary moved to Chicago to live with her uncle and aunt. Later, they lived with their grandparents in Vermont.</td>
<td>To honor her accomplishment in Colorado, a statue of her was placed in Statuary Hall in the US Capitol, as one of the two statues to represent the state.</td>
<td>As part of her campaign to pass her Health Bills, Dr. Sabin crossed the state explaining them to Colorado citizens.</td>
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<td><a href="https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&amp;d=LFL19461101-01.2.2&amp;srpos=10&amp;e=---------en-20--1--img-txIN%7ctxCO%7ctxTA-Florence+Sabin-------0------">https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&amp;d=LFL19461101-01.2.2&amp;srpos=10&amp;e=---------en-20--1--img-txIN%7ctxCO%7ctxTA-Florence+Sabin-------0------</a></td>
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<td><strong>Letter from Johns Hopkins hiring her as a Professor of Histology</strong></td>
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<td>Florence Sabin was the first woman professor at JHU.</td>
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<td>As the first woman professor at the JHU Medical school, her accomplishments were so outstanding the school changed their policy against hiring women professors.</td>
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Teacher Resource Set


Foundations Annotations

Curriculum Connections

History
## Curriculum Standards

### CO State History Grade Level Expectation 1: People in the past influenced the development and interaction of different communities and regions. (Third Grade) Students can:

- **a.** Give examples of people, events, and developments that brought important changes to a community or region.
- **b.** Recognize how members of a community rely on each other and interact to influence the development of their communities.

### CO State Grade Level Expectation 2: The historical eras, individuals, groups, ideas, and themes in Colorado history and their relationship to key events in the United States within the same historical period. (Fourth Grade) Students can:

- **a.** Describe the impact of various technological developments. For example: changes in mining technologies, transportation, early 20th century industrial developments, and mid-to late-20th century nuclear, and computer technologies. (In this instance, developments in public health technology and practices.)
- **b.** Recognize and describe cause-and-effect relationships within Colorado history and draw conclusions about how various events and people affected the development of the state.

### CO State Grade Level Expectation 1: Analyze historical sources from multiple points of view to develop an understanding of historical context. (Fifth Grade) Students can:

- **a.** Recognize how historical context can affect the perspective of historical sources.
- **b.** Make observations and draw conclusions from a variety of sources when studying American history.

## Content and Thinking Objectives

The students will be able to:

- list the contributions of Florence Sabin to the health and well-being of the state of Colorado.
- explain the influence of Florence Sabin’s career path and how it was unique for its time and historical context.
- examine how Florence was a role model and how her life led to increased opportunities for women in the sciences.
- evaluate how Florence, as one person, brought important changes to Denver, Colorado, and the United States.
### Inquiry Questions, Activities and Strategies

#### Inquiry Questions:

- What contributions did Florence Sabin make to health science when working at Johns Hopkins and the Rockefeller Institute? When she chaired the Subcommittee on Public Health in Colorado?

- How was Florence Sabin’s career path unique and influential?

- How did the people of Colorado benefit from the specific changes Florence made to public health laws?

- How can one person’s passion for a cause impact an entire community?

#### Inquiry Activities: (You may wish to support students in reading the more advanced articles as they provide considerably more detail.)

- Using the primary sources provided, invite students to consider the environment in which Florence worked and lived.

- Encourage students to examine the issues that inspired Florence to go into medical research and teaching.

- After reading the article, ask students to describe the changes Florence Sabin made in Colorado’s public health practices.

- Encourage students to examine how Florence Sabin’s life was a role model for women of her time.
Assessment Strategies

Depending upon how one uses the resources and which standards are chosen, assessment can take many forms. For example:

**CO State History Grade Level Expectation 2:** People in the past influence the development and interactions of different communities or regions. (Third Grade)

b) Give examples of people, events, and developments that brought important changes to a community or region by:

- Write and present a speech that Florence Sabin might have given to a community in Colorado explaining the need for new health laws.
- Write a series of three letters from Florence to her sister, Mary, describing three major events in her life:
  1. when she was appointed as a professor in the medical school at Johns Hopkins,
  2. when she was hired to lead medical research at the Rockefeller Institute
  3. when the Sabin Health Laws were passed in Colorado.

**Other Resources**

**Web Resources**


Colorado Women’s Hall of Fame, “Florence Sabin, M. D.” [https://www.cogreatwomen.org/project/florence-sabin-md/](https://www.cogreatwomen.org/project/florence-sabin-md/)


### NIH, National Library of Medicine


### Secondary Sources

Teacher Resource Set

Working together to tell the story of our state!

Developers

Sponsors

Partners